

Park River... 100 Years



1884 - 1984



PANORAMIC VIEW OF PA

March 21, 1903

Larry



RED RIVER, NORTH DAKOTA

By G. H. MacDonald



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Dedication

We dedicate this centennial book to two generations:

To you, the pioneers who founded Park River a century ago--

we hope we have lived up to your visions;

To you, our descendants who are reading this book a century from now--

we hope we have handed down a Park River of which you can be proud.

Centennial Committee



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Table of Contents

Here We G(uit)eau Again.....	1
History of Park River.....	7
Our Earliest Years.....	19
Park River-An Instance of Rapid Development.....	27
Historic Park River Fires Recalled.....	29
Reflections	33
Prominent Citizens of Park River in 1900	99
City Council.....	103
Business Firms-1918.....	112
Park River Businesses.....	121
Walsh County Agricultural School.....	157
Public School District No. 78.....	177
Sports.....	191
Churches.....	219
Organizations.....	229
Family Histories.....	251
Homes at the Turn of the Century	377
A Bit of Nostalgia.....	391
More Pictures.....	395
Dr. Livingston In Walsh.....	411
Advertising.....	413
Index.....	417

CENTENNIAL HEADQUARTERS



Gary Paulson, treasurer of the Park River Centennial Committee and Bill Skjerven, Jr., Chairman.



RESERVATIONS

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If there are any errors, they are unintentional and we apologize for them.

PARK RIVER CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

Here We G(uit)eau Again: The Life And Death Of Garfield, Dakota

Garfield deserved a better fate. It was killed during the early 1880's like its presidential namesake. Unlike President Garfield its killer was not a man named Guiteau, but a railroad. Unlike the case of President Garfield, the memory of the town has faded into the obscurity of a non-remembered past. Its mute relics are with us still (if Ted Torgerson is correct) in a few surviving buildings that were towed on wagons from Garfield to the new boom town of Park River in the summer of 1884. Human memory, though, is less durable than wood. Of the dozens of settlers of old Garfield, men like W.W. Gilbert, A.R. Amberg, I.R. Page, S.M. Leache, Dr. James Robertson and others, only two, Sander Soll and Knut Peterson Levang, have survived for inclusion in the volumes of Walsh Heritage. Their historical death is lamentable, for these were the people who, along with the Great Northern railroad and the Scotch settlers from the Kensington area, pioneered Park River.

Those things that were so important a century ago in the minds of living people have not been passed down; the name, and the personalities that made those names real persons, the day-to-day activities, the unremitting struggle to transform the prairie from buffalo pasture to wheat land, the excitement and calamities, even the very location of the town itself. It is with some trepidation that I write this small history of a tiny and forgotten town; I am trying to bring back to life a small part of something that has been so very dead for the better part of a hundred years.

In resurrecting the memory of Garfield, Dakota, let us begin with the location. The town was situated at the head of the Golden Valley, in section 21 of Golden Township, and probably stretched across the north-south quarter line. It nestled in the sheltering trees of the Park River, near its south bank, about one-half mile north of the sectionline. The ford on the river was at this point, but by April, 1884, the town boasted a 14-span, 150-foot bridge. The hill to the west of town served as the town's poorly-kept graveyard.

The location recommended itself because it was on the north-south wagon trail across the Park River, a natural jumping-off point for land hunters on their way to the Turtle Mountains. But more important, this promised to be the site of a railroad in the near future. The Northern Pacific (and possibly the Great Northern) had surveyed up the valley in 1882. The town began to develop shortly thereafter, and can probably be dated from the opening of Simon Leach's general store in the middle of 1882.

In the next year Garfield's population grew rapidly, but no one ever made a count of the town's citizens. The United States census came before its birth; by the time of the Dakota Territorial Census of 1885 Garfield was dead. A township census in late spring 1884 found only 286 people in all of Golden Township. Of these, 167 were males, 85 of them over the age of 20, 119 were female, 58 over 20. Fourteen score and six is certainly not a multitude, but when one considers that the first squatters in Golden Township arrived only in 1880, and that the nearest grain buyers, even as late as 1884, were in Grafton, some 25 miles removed, one concludes that the settlers must have had an

exuberant confidence in the future development of the area.

By summer of 1883 Garfield was thriving. The town boasted no less than three general stores, including Page and White's (which advertised "Goods and Groceries cheap as can be bought in the Northwest. Scandinavian and German spoken."). Finneseth's hardware store in the post office building, 2 physicians and drugstores, two blacksmiths, two hotels including The Garfield House ("Good accommodations for Land Hunters and Prospectors"), a wagon maker, three carpenters and a printing office.

In addition, Garfield had two other kinds of businesses that were always parts of the business life of a pioneer community; land offices and saloons. There were three land offices in town including the W.H. Douglass ("Have your land surveyed and avoid trouble with your neighbors.") Karl Farup, the Park River pioneer, was temporarily associated with the Douglass firm. The land offices notarized documents, prepared land claims, and lent money on land, there being no banks in the area.

Of saloons, Garfield had two: Chris Berg's City Billiard Hall ("Best brands of liquor and cigars always on hand") which boasted a pool table brought in by wagon all the way from Grand Forks, and John Wilson's Garfield Sample Room ("Whiskeys, wines and cigars"). Beer seems to have needed no advertisement. Business must have been good in these places, for H.P. Geis, the Grafton agent of the Fargo Brewery and later saloon owner in Park River, made regular thirty-day rounds and never travelled with a partly-empty wagon. The editor of the town newspaper, the Garfield Gazette, was neither prohibitionist, not particularly happy with the local saloons; "They, as a rule, speak for themselves. Ours are run as orderly as one could ask." (June 14, 1883).

Well, perhaps a little more order could have been asked. The Gazette's editor did not mention as did Judge George Shepherd in his reminiscences almost a half century later, that the saloons kept no regular hours and operated under no policing restrictions. In 1883 the only officer of the law mentioned was Constable Joe Catherwood of the Kensington settlement ten miles down the river. Things must have gotten a bit out of hand by May, 1884, for the County Auditor informed "our dealers in wet hardware that they will close by 11:00 p.m. and all day Sunday. If any further disturbances occur, licenses will be revoked."

The location of these saloons and all other business establishments is unclear from the sources available. It is known, though, that there were at least two streets in the town. Main Street ran east and west. On this street was Wilson's sample room, situated between Page and White's general store and Dr. Robertson's office. The north to south street, Broadway, probably led directly to the ford on the river. The post office building, which also housed a grocery store and a hardware store, was on this thoroughfare. If this post office structure should sound large, forget the notion. Garfield buildings were not erected according to modern standards of size. As an example, in May 1884 it was noted that County Commissioner Dan Tellif was about to build one of the most substantial farmhouses in the

area-- a 1½ story structure, 18' long and 16' wide.

Though the town was small in population, it was not compact. The Fourth of July race course ran from Leach's store to the liberty pole in front of Page and White's-- the track was a half mile long. Garfield was large enough in fact that some merchants identified their location as "west end" or "east side". The more well-to-do establishments boasted board sidewalks for the benefit of their customers, but street paving and cement sidewalk were inventions of the distant future, as was indoor plumbing. Privies were, of course, never mentioned, but Garfield did have a town well.

If one judges by the surnames of the town's businessmen-- names like Clemetson, Ofstedahl, Finneseth and Berg; Harris, Douglass, Carman and Gilbert-- there was a balance of Scandinavian and Canadian settlers in the community. Though the editor of the local newspaper certainly did not look down on the Scandinavian, neither did he pay them much attention. He carefully mentioned, for example, the irregular Methodist services (led by preachers from the Kensington settlement) in the schoolhouse. But in looking over the issues of the Gazette, it comes as a surprise in June, 1884, when the editor noted that the Methodist Church services were to be held in Mr. Leach's store the following Sunday because one of the Norwegian societies had the school for the Sabbath.

One other noteworthy feature of this town was the age of its leading citizens. County commissioner Telif was 31, Sander Soll, 26, while Oscar Frovarp of Frovarp's Full Quadrille Band had reached the ripe old age of 24. Other proprietors had similar ages-- Chris Berg, the saloonkeeper was 28; A.R. Amber, builder of Garfield's neat chimneys was 30, the same age as John White of Page and White's. Christian Finneseth still had yet to see the end of his twenty-eighth year, but was a patriarch in comparison to John Ofstedahl, who at 21 had set up a successful general store. Simon Leach was a virtual antique among his competitors at the age of 61. Garfield was no home for elderly dreamers; it attracted young men with visions.

All in all, the impression of Garfield is that of a young, vigorous thriving community. Wagon shipments for the stores and saloons arrived every week. In the summer of 1883, the wagons of homeseekers were ever more common. Wheat prices were high, pushing 80 cents per bushel, and farmers could hope for the return of the dollar wheat of 1881. The harvest of 1883 received glowing reports; triumphant announcements of 20-25 bushels per acre of No. 1 hard wheat were not at all uncommon, while Ed Kitchen about ten miles south harvested 44 bushels from a measured acre. Not bad at all when one considers that the bonanza farmers of the time got rich on 17-18 bushels per acre, and that the average wheat yield per acre in Dakota during the 1880's was no more than 13 bushels.

Garfield had all the necessities of a frontier community, from the general stores to the saloons. The one extra thing that Garfield had (and it is the factor that makes possible the writing of this history) was a local newspaper, the Garfield Gazette, established on Friday, June 14, 1883. Its editor, W.W. Gilbert, was the son of General E.W. Gilbert, and a recent emigrant from Minnesota. In the first issue of the Gazette the editor noted his limited experience in running a newspaper (though he had previously worked for the Grand Forks Herald as a bookkeeper and probably as a reporter). Was it this inexperience, or the lack of local news, that led him to publish an indiscreet account of school activities in an early issue? At the end of the first month of the school session this report mentioned not only the names of all twelve students in the three grades of Miss Mary McClernan's schoolhouse, but also their grades. One can imagine Lars

Omland's reaction when he read of his 12-year-old son Joseph's 75 percent. (Mary Carman got a 93½) Editor Gilbert never repeated this intemperant act.

The layout of this four-page weekly newspaper was standard throughout its brief existence. The outside columns of the front page consisted of ads, usually from local merchants. The inside columns contained folksy local news, brief pieces seldom more than five lines long; they related who dropped by the office that week, where the dance was to be held on the weekend, local improvements like that smart new picket fence outside the post office or the siding that finally got put up on the saloon. Amongst these bits of local tittle-tattle the editor sneaked in one-line ads ("Shop Ofstedahl's for big bargains.").

W.W. Gilbert was not a great editorializer; in fact he wrote none. Nor did his newspaper ever take a direct stand on anything except the need for a railroad and the desirability of electing Blaine and Logan in the 1884 presidential election. Missing from the pages of the Gazette is the heavy boosterism one would expect from a paper in a potential boom town. Of course, in the Gazette's descriptions Garfield's weather was never really bad (but what kind of wind was it, one asks without ever finding the answer, that blew the front off Omland's store?). When Gilbert mentioned a 30 degree below temperature, it was always, it would seem, a dry, invigorating cold. One reads reports of consistent 20 plus bushel per acre harvests of wheat, but one has to read a local ad "Dr. Robertson is now selling potato bug poison."--to be aware that anything unpleasant could threaten the prosperity of the Golden Valley. If editor Gilbert's silence is accurate witness, there was no drought, no cyclone, no blizzard anywhere in his section of the valley.

There wasn't always enough local news to fill up even the first page, but irregular contributors (often with fancy pseudonyms) from outlying regions did their part to obviate empty spaces. "Nemo" from Galt, a general store-post office, wrote in just before the Fourth that the Catholic Church was to give a big picnic on the holiday. It was not necessary Nemo opined, to go to Garfield, Medford, "or any other large city" to have a good time. "Sodbuster" from Township 155-57 (Cleveland) noted that the farmers in 1883 were plagued by a big crop of gophers. But there was a silver lining even in this pestilence; gopher stew, "with the tail on for a handle" is a sure cure for dyspepsia or "the night horse" (whatever that was). A Silvista correspondent fell in with the spirit of the times when he noted that the wheat yield in his area was as high as 26 bushels, and would have been higher if it hadn't been for the immense flocks of birds that got to the seed in the spring. From Edinburgh an anonymous contributor wrote with a laconic absence of enthusiasm that "the new Edinburgh saloon is well patronized."

Yet even with the news and ads from the area, there was barely enough material to complete the first of the Gazette's four pages. To fill the inside pages, editor Gilbert printed two- or three-week-old territorial and national news items, dreadfully poor short stories, or exotic features with titles like "Moorish Rule in Spain", "Turkish Wives" or "Famous Russian Diamond Story". Infrequently there appeared some very sorry, stale excuses for jokes, which were so bad they don't merit inclusion here even for the sake of historical accuracy. The material for pages two and three arrived by stage coach each week from some outside source, set up and ready for printing.

Page four was the Gazette's major money-maker-- here were printed the land claim announcements. Undoubtedly one of the major reasons attracting W.W. Gilbert to the Golden Valley was the surge of homesteaders into the valley and areas farther west. The law required that each claimant of free homestead land give

public notice of his (or her) claim for six consecutive weeks in a newspaper. Page four, especially in the spring, was jammed with difficult announcements set in the smallest type available. In particularly busy weeks these claim notices would spill over onto the third page. The fee for carrying these legal notices amounted to \$5.00 for the six weeks. It is doubtful whether any newspaper could have set up in the area without this assurance of a steady income.

The Gazette had other sources of revenue. The subscription price was a whopping \$2.00 for 52 issues. (Someone ought to call this to HWK's attention.)

There were also the ads from the local merchants ("All-Wool Scarlet Underwear \$2.25-\$3.00 at Page and White's"). "Local" in this instance meant Grafton, where the area's grain had to go for marketing, and even Grand Forks- "Wittelschofer, the Jeweler", took a front-page slot for more than a year.

Finally, there were the advertisements, often illustrated, for products from out of state. These ads featured items for the farmers--threshers, two-ton scales and axle grease; for their wives-- White's Automatic Bobbin Winder and Ball's Corsets; and for the children-- The Youth's Companion ("two million readers weekly"), the Marvellous Webber Singing Doll, and the like. For everyone Montgomery Ward offered his Buying Guide with 3300 illustrations and 216 pages, free- upon receipt of 7 cents postage.

And of course, this being the age of quack doctors and patent medicine, advertisers pushed nostrums for everything that could possibly ail a pioneer. A small sampling of these ads reveals: Piso's Cure for Consumption, 25 cents; Dr. LaFien's French Moustache Vigor ("Grows a beard on the smoothest face"); Samartine Nervine, a specific for among other afflictions, Epilepsy, Syphilis, Scrofula, King's Evil and Costiveness; The Pastille, Professor Harris' cure for impotency, one month's treatment, \$3.00; Cuticura soap "A positive cure for every form of skin and blood disease"; or The Marriage Guide, 260 pages, 60 cents, sent sealed by Dr. Whittier of St. Louis. And what a listing of curealls would be complete without the most famous of them all:

Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. A medicine invented by a woman. Prepared by a woman. It revives drooping spirits...removes faintness, flatulence, destroys all craving for stimulants...\$1.00 per bottle, \$5.00 for six.

Most things, I suppose, have changed beyond recognition since 1883, but advertisers even then knew how to separate the gullible from their money, the main difference being that temporary relief from costiveness costs more now than it did then.

Garfield was not self-sufficient by any means. Without television or the automobile it remained isolated from much regular contact with the outside world. There were, of course, the stale items of national and Dakota news in the Gazette, the travelers seeking land and the merchant suppliers. The Garfield area also had a post office from 1880 to 1886. Its postmaster, Knut Levang received mail deliveries twice weekly. In its early days the office was a rather informal affair, run out of Levang's sod house north of the river. One homesteader recalled that when he stopped by for the mail it was often on the bed, but more usually underneath it. By 1883 the office was on Broadway and received the mail from a regular stage coach route which was organized by Carman and Johnson in October 1882. The stages were two-horse rigs and probably arrived in Garfield in the late afternoon. They set out from Grafton at 7:00 Tuesday and Friday mornings, and made an intermediate stop at Kensington. Besides carrying mail and freight, the stage company offered passenger transportation at 20 cents per mile (perhaps this is another

reason Garfielders wanted a railroad).

Life in this frontier community was for the most part hard-diphtheria and cholera were common, smallpox a terror-repetitious and drudging, as life on an agricultural frontier must be. Without that monotonous and thrifty effort the prairie could never have been subdued. Yet the townspeople had their diversions and celebrations to interrupt the grinding stability of everyday life. They also witnessed serious incidents involving the law. And, more important, there were the uncertainties about the railroad: which one would arrive, when would it arrive and eventually, the killing question-- where would it arrive?

Everybody loves Saturday night. Out on the hard-working frontier the Garfielders welcomed Saturday night more lustily than sedentary citified folk. Except at harvest time, nearly every issue of the Gazette either mentioned the upcoming dance or reported on last week's. "Dance to be given at Sander Soll's Saturday night." read one week's issue; "Some fifteen couples present at Mr. Soll's dance last week. The dance lasted until dawn," was in the next issue.

Dances usually started at 5:00 and it seems to have been considered very poor form to break up the festivities before 4:00 a.m. Editor Gilbert gives such delightful reports on the activities that one surmises he was a regular participant. Oftentimes a meal was served around midnight. Mrs. W.S. Post was a regular organizer of these festivities beginning in late 1883. There must have been money to be made for the usual charge mentioned were "Dance and Dinner, \$1.50, Dance only, \$1.00."

Garfield dances didn't meet up to Eastern standards of elegance. Their locations could be called informal at the least. One was held at the Green Schoolhouse, another at Sander Soll's new granary in West Garfield. In the Post's house, which also served as a hotel, dancing space was made in its two rooms, and the "orchestra" played from the intervening doorway. The house-hotel must have been quite small but the Christmas dance, called by Elery Riley of Grafton, proved to be a tremendous success; there were some thirty couples in attendance, and "a good time was had by all." The Posts' New Year's dance featured "an elegant oyster supper", which took several hours to serve, because only six couples could be seated at a time. Later in January, 1884, editor Gilbert remarked that scarcely a week passes without 2-5 dances in the community. A late February dance was a special event; it attracted two mighty orchestras, John Kubat's String Band and Frovarp's Full Quadrille Band, making a total of "five pieces in all."

These winter festivities were equalled by the big holiday of the year, the Fourth of July. The day began as one would imagine, with mischievous boys setting off loud firecrackers in inappropriate places. There was a formal program consisting of words of welcome in both English and Norwegian and patriotic oratory. The editor commented in July, 1884 that the crowd had enjoyed a great piece of speaking, but he neglected to mention the subject. He did note though that the speaker dismissed the crowd with three hearty cheers "which showed conclusively that consumption is a rarity in Dakota". Then began the races of various sorts-- horse and pony races, foot races, a sack race and even a blindfold race. After the races came glass ball shooting (in 1883 the shooters had run short of glass balls and had to substitute with eggs). In 1884 Gilbert forgot who won the contest. Perhaps he was over at the dance, for during the shooting the "managers of the bowery called up the dancers and quite a number kept it up until daylight." No mention is made of any kind of rowdiness, even though one could feel quite confident in thinking that the two saloons made a profit that day. On July 5, Gilbert went as far as to say that there had been no disturbances of any consequence.

Yet he also accepted on quick notice the following classified ad for inclusion in the same issue:

Ten Dollars Reward. I will pay the above sum to anyone who will give me such information as will lead to the conviction of the party who threw the beer keg against my building on the evening of July 4. Dr. J. Robertson.

Alas, it was not revealed in print whether the despicable hooligan was ever brought to justice.

For the most part the Gazette pictured a stable and law-abiding community in which there were, of course, a few fun-loving altercations. The June 23, 1883 issue noted several lively skirmishes over the past week, but nothing serious, "just too much of the cold tea". The following issue mentioned that Constable Catherwood had exercised his muscles Tuesday afternoon with a few of Garfield's young men.

There were more serious interruptions of the general flow of local life. On October 18, the Gazette devoted a half column (a very long piece of reportage for this newspaper) to Constable Catherwood's apprehension of one E.B. Cooper of Grafton on a charge of assault. Cooper attempted to flee, but following an exchange of pistol fire, he was arrested and forcibly taken to the Kensington court of Justice Mitchell. He was freed on \$1500 bond and the case was bound over to the Grand Forks District Court.

This affair was an interesting, but seemingly run-of-the-mill event for a frontier town. In November, however, more background on this incident emerged. Though Byron Cooper was undoubtedly a "hard man", he was no drifter, but the son of pioneer Grafton merchant T.E. Cooper. The charge against him was not simple assault, but the aggravated attempt rape of Miss Leticia Dynes, a homesteader who lived southwest of Garfield. Moreover, while young Cooper was in the Grafton jail (the only other occupant was a "crazy girl" awaiting transportation to the Territorial Asylum in Yankton; she was the eighth new inmate from Walsh County that year.) He located a monkey wrench, undid the bolts on his cell door, got his pony from the barn, and "skipped". Cooper's ultimate fate was never revealed, although the Grafton News and Times reported in December that "E.B. Cooper was at Brandon, Manitoba lately". One further comment on this incident: Constable Catherwood, in the Gazette's description seemed to have been rather rough in arresting Cooper; the fact that Leticia Dynes was his aunt may have had something to do with his conduct.

Another incident created even better copy for the local newspaper, though in a town which had the subsequent reputation for being "wide open" the events of Saturday, April 12, 1884 probably came as no terrible shock. On the following Friday the Gazette carried a two-column report entitled "Shooting Affray": a homesteader Gilbert Vold was shot down in the post office door by one Andrew Thompson. The affair began with an argument in a saloon. Thompson, who had come down from his claim on Mauvais Coulee, was playing pool in the City Billiard Hall, after having had a few drinks. Vold, who also had come into town from his claim and who also had hoisted more than a few, began to interfere with play, and soon came at Thompson, "cursing in Norwegian and English". A fight started, but ended amicably. A bit later Vold returned to the saloon with what observers thought to be a knife (it turned out later to have been a harrow tooth). Thompson ran out the door with Vold in full pursuit, threatening to kill him and menacing several people on the streets.

Thompson had earlier made some purchases at Ofstedahl's store in the post office. Vold must have known this, for he stationed himself in the doorway. As Thompson, prudently accompanied by several of his friends, neared the post office

door, Vold reached for his back pocket. In response Thompson drew a pistol and fired. Vold died shortly thereafter in the office of Dr. Robertson.

Constable Sander Soll made a quiet arrest. Thompson was taken to Justice McCullough for preliminary examination on a charge of murder, then was transferred to the jails in Grafton and then Grand Forks. On November 19 a Grand Forks jury accepted Thompson's pleas of self-defense after less than 20 minutes' deliberation. Thompson, it was said, would return quietly to his claim.

Attempted rape, insanity, murder. It makes one wonder about real life in Walsh County before the turn of the century. It is quite evident that editor Gilbert tidied up the life of Garfield before depicting it in print, but these realities creep from under the window-dressed image of a boisterous, but law-abiding, town.

Of ultimate concern to the community, however, was not the looseness of urban life; it was the railroad. The nearest shipping point for the life blood of the Golden Valley, No. 1 hard wheat, was the elevator complex at Grafton, some 25 miles away. This distance and the slowness of ox-drawn wagons, made it at least a two-day journey to sell every bushel. And even if a farmer got to Grafton, how much would his wagon hold? Maybe as many as 25 2-bushel sacks. These economics of transportation forced the farmers to restrict the acreage under cultivation: if wheat could not be marketed, it would not be raised. Even with this unnatural limitation of acreage in western Walsh County, editor Gilbert estimated that of the 538 carloads of grain shipped from Grafton in 1883, fully one-third came from west of Kensington, the area of which Garfield was the main focus. One senses throughout the pages of the early Gazette that, under proper transportation conditions the valley was ready to burst with wheat.

Proper transportation conditions meant a nearby railroad. The early issues of 1883 glowed with assurance that the railroad was ready to start north at any time, and quite possibly might reach Garfield before winter set in, because the town lay only 17 miles north of the end of the grade. Not for the last time, the railroads disappointed them; no savior moved north that year.

At the beginning of 1884 railroad talk in western Walsh began in earnest. On January 11, a large meeting of township farmers assembled in Nate Carman's Garfield House to determine what inducements they could offer a railroad to build up the Golden Valley. They approved, unanimously, a motion to offer a railroad free right-of-way. Farmers, offering to give away land for something other than a school or a church? Farmers, agreeing on anything unanimously?? The problem confronting them was clearly vital.

The delegates voiced another interesting demand at this January meeting. Their offer of free right-of-way extended to any railroad other than the St. Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba (Jim Hill's road, the St. P., M&M, popularly known as the Manitoba, the forerunner of the Great Northern). A meeting of March 1 echoed this sentiment; the valley would be better off with no railroad at all than with the Manitoba (the accent fell on the ba' of Manitoba). Gilbert never explained why the Empire Builder's road was in such bad repute with area farmers, but this refrain persisted for the next months- any railway but Jim Hill's. Not only from the Garfield vicinity did this talk come, but also from correspondents in Medford, Latona and Edinburgh. Rumors that the Milwaukee, or the Northern Pacific or the Fargo and Southern was about to start north aroused the Gazette to near ecstasy.

A huge meeting convened in the Garfield schoolhouse on March 18. Some sixty delegates arrived, representing nearly every township from Vernon and Norton north to the boundary line. To

show the as yet unnamed railroad that a ready market awaited it, the delegates had done some preliminary demographic work, conducting informal land and population censuses of their respective townships. The data provided by the eight Walsh County townships represented (Vernon, Norton, Golden, Vesta, Lampton, Dundee, Teuber (original spelling) and Latona) asserted that they had about 3100 inhabitants and more than 36,000 acres ready for crop. Because the census was self-serving, these figures are very much open to question. In Golden Township, for example, the delegates located 450 people and 4,688 acres of improved land; the county tax assessor in the same year found only 286 people and 4030 acres, and he would certainly not have had any motive to undercount. Nevertheless, the figures do point out that this area was not the virgin land of September, 1880, when government surveyor E.S. Sturtivant found in the township only 9 squatters and two small cultivated patches that amounted to as much as thirty acres.

The delegates in March were again unanimous; free right-of-way would go to any railway (except guess whose) if it could build a line in time to take out the year's harvest.

Despite the popular distaste for the St. P., M&M, rumors persisted throughout the spring of 1884 that it was about to start north from Larimore. In April General Manager Manvel of that despicable line was indirectly quoted as saying that it would begin laying track north from Larimore, and would reach Garfield by harvest time. This information is a perfect example of rumor at best: it was half-true. By early June the St. P., M&M did have three crews working on the northern grade: they were not, however, pointed toward Garfield.

The same April issue of the Gazette revealed the editor's first cautious uncertainty about the future. He noted that of course we would like to have a railroad at Garfield, but if we cannot have one ourselves we are willing to help our neighbors.

Yet for the next several weeks the Gazette held hope for the town's future. The people of the locale seem to have quickly reconciled themselves to the inevitability of the hated St. P., M&M; they would curse it, but they would take its benefits. On May 8 Gilbert reported that a route had been surveyed to Inkster and thence northward to a mile past the South Branch of the Park River, about 3½ miles west of Kensington and 5½ miles east of Garfield. The route surveyed clung to the line of hills, was level and avoided watery spots. Gilbert supplements this piece of factual reportage with a speculation that was pure bravado; a survey would undoubtedly be run up the Golden Valley too, and the better (surely the valley route) would be chosen.

But, by June his subscribers were reading about the inevitable; graders were at work on the new line six miles east of the town "Where the wagon road crosses". Track crews expected to be ready for iron by September 1. Housemovers from Grafton arrived in early July to ask Garfielders when they wanted their buildings removed to the new townsite. In the July 24 issue Gilbert's tune has changed completely; he begins to boost the new town: "Kensington (the name originally intended for Park

River) will be the best town in Walsh County in a short time." On August 7: "Every businessman in Garfield bought a lot in the new town of Kensington and are preparing to move their buildings." Gilbert too has arranged to move: there is literally no future for a town which the railroad passes by.

The last issue of the Garfield Gazette, August 14, 1884, is rather poignant. The town is disappearing. The Garfield House is gone. Post's Hotel is gone. Oscar Trovatten has purchased a lot in the new town and will set up a saloon. Ofstedahl and Finneseth will soon tear down their stores and rebuild in Kensington. Dr. Robertson moved last Friday. His first attempt broke down, but then he put the building upon timbers on four wagons and added two more teams of horses and everything went smoothly.

Dr. Robertson's drug store crept east by south across the prairie accompanied by two other buildings. Midway to their destination, this outlandish wagon train encountered a young man cutting wheat.

"Hey friend," called out the lead driver, "how far are we from Guiteau?"

"Guiteau?" replied the young man, George Shepherd, "What do you mean?"

With a trace of disgust in his voice the driver asked, "Aren't you an American?" When young Shepherd replied affirmatively, the driver continued, "Then you ought to know that Guiteau killed Garfield and that's what your blooming (expletive in the printed account, but probably not in the original conversation) town has done to our little village. She's a dead Garfield."

Garfield was indeed dead. The sound of the hammer was constantly heard in the remains of the little town; in Kensington too, but there it was drumming an entirely different tune. The remaining parties who weren't moving their buildings to the new town were tearing them down so as to use the lumber to some advantage. The town looked somewhat deserted now, Gilbert noted in the last issue, and in a few weeks, he declared, nothing would be left to show the traveller where the town of Garfield once stood. He was right. By January, 1885, all that remained of downtown Garfield was the liberty pole that had stood in front of Page and White's general store and proudly marked the end of the race course during the Fourth of July celebrations. Three years later, Frank Prochaska, the future editor of the Park River Gazette, observed nothing at the site but a schoolhouse and some few cellars and foundations to mark the site where once had stood a thriving village.

W.W. Gilbert lost no time in weeping over the death of Garfield. He, and all the others, were men of business, not sentiment; they were young, and they had visions. And so Garfield passed, unmourned and quickly forgotten as the new nomads followed the fields of opportunity. The task of the prairie then was to conquer and create, not to preserve and re-create. They cast off, created, and forgot. So, they, the citizens of Garfield, in losing their past, left it up to us to recreate these dreams of life in an isolated frontier town of a century ago.

Dave G. Larson
Dept. of History
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Conway, Arkansas



The Marriage and Success of our Popular Merchant, Thomas Catherwood

The marriage of Mr. Thomas Catherwood last evening to the daughter of an eastern millionaire in the event of the season. At an early hour the invited guests had arrived and were received in person by Mr. Catherwood. The bride's wardrobe was very elaborate and costly, being ordered direct from Paris and valued at several thousand dollars, the dress being of white brocade satin, draped with cream Spanish lace, and fastened with orange blossoms and olive leaves. At the wrist an elegant set of bracelets inlaid in jet and pearls, while at the neck a heavy necklace of diamonds were worn, these being the gift of her father. Mr. Catherwood appeared in full dress wearing the English coat of arms in honor of his forefathers. At eight o'clock the guests had all arrived and the spacious drawing room was thrown open which was magnificently arranged and light by electricity. The happy couple were ushered into the drawing room from the laboratory, the bride leaning on the arm of Sir Frederick Robb, Baronet, of the royal family of Canada, they were followed by Dr. William Bruce, the family physician with a box of Ayer's pills. The ceremony was conducted by three clergymen and a boy. After which each guest was invited to attend the New Years' greeting at Mr. Catherwood's store. This being a favorable opportunity, all viewed the immense stock with admiration, the popular verdict being the best selected stock and the cheapest place to trade. The manner in which goods are being sold by this enterprising merchant is simply marvelous. On the shelves may be found the most seasonable dry goods and groceries, boots, shoes, hats, caps and ready made clothing all of the standard manufacture. Flour, pork, and in fact all kinds of provisions are kept constantly in stock. Mr. Catherwood is extensively engaged in the wholesale trade of farm wagons and sleighs. At this time farmers are given a benefit on what they have to sell as the highest market price is paid for all

kinds of farm produce. It will pay you well, and you should not fail to price his goods before purchasing elsewhere.

P. S. The happy couple left this morning in a prairie schooner and will visit Garfield, Vesta, Edinburgh, Galt and other prominent cities on a collecting tour. For further particulars inquire at the Park River Store.

The Garfield Store.

John Ofstedahl has a stock of dry goods and groceries on hand which is a credit to our town. That these are first class, and that the above gentleman is the popular business man of Park River and vicinity is testified by a host of his old customers and legion of new ones who every day come flocking to his overflowing counters. A number of the best experienced clerks are ever ready to display this substantial and first-class stock and every one leaves satisfied with quality and prices of both groceries and dry goods. He carries the finest brands of flour. Crockery of every description, Boots Shoes and Over shoes of superior make, heavy flannels, etc, and in fact everything and anything found in a first-class store. Give him a call when in town.

There seems to have been some misunderstanding among our people here Tuesday over the incorporation of Park River as a town. Many were of the opinion that should we have organization the saloon license would be placed at \$500. This is a mistake as our town board will be composed of men who will do what is reasonable and for the best interests of all concerned. Owing to this state of affairs a great many did not vote. There were but eighty-six votes cast, all being in favor, which represents about one third of the Park River voters.

History of Park River

This is the story of Park River. It began not 75, not 100 years ago, but long before Indian or white man appeared; a great arm from the Gulf of Mexico formed an inland salt sea covering the western half of the Mississippi Valley and extending far into British America. The layers of rock underneath our soil were once the mud bottoms of that sea. As the centuries passed, the sea withdrew and the land appeared, gradually covered by drift soil and vegetation. Then came the period of the glaciers, mile high rivers of ice and snow, which bore down from the Arctic, grinding huge boulders to gravel, sand and clay. Here these gigantic rivers cut a tableland so flat that our horizons are boundless. Then as the weather gradually grew warmer and ice began to melt; as the glaciers receded to the north, they left a vast lake which we call Lake Agassiz. For hundreds of years the fine sediment of ground up limestone deposited by the early sea, mixed with the black organic matter in the lake, until, as the waters of the lake slowly dried, there was formed the valley of the Red River, which, for its size, is probably the most fertile and most nearly level area in the world. And in this fruitful valley lies the small well knit community known as Park River.



"Dam Built By Beavers"

FRED HULTSTRAND "HISTORY IN PICTURES"

North Dakota Institute for Regional Studies

The choice of where the trading posts would be built was largely determined by the presence of beaver dams. The spot which is selected for a dam is usually on a small stream that doesn't have much current. The beaver selects a narrow place in the stream so that the dam will be as near as possible to any fallen trees and the like.

What is now the town of Park River and the surrounding area was particularly desirable on account of the dams along this stream. The Park River was so named from the fact that the Assiniboiné Indians made a park or pound along the river for the buffalo and headed them in from all directions and then slaughtered them.

The First Inhabitants Of This Area

The Indians who once lived in what is now Walsh County were the Chippewas, a small contingent of Ottawas, the Cheyennes and the Assiniboinés.

At one time, while the Chippewas were out hunting for supplies,

during their absence, the Sioux attacked their village and killed a great number of old men, women and children.

The territory, which was necessary to cross to get to the Park River was disputed ground— where it was dangerous for either the Sioux or the Chippewas to hunt.

Alexander Henry hired a band of Indians (mostly Chippewas) to hunt beaver for the Northwest Fur Company.



One of the first inhabitants of this area.

Early Park River History

The people who transformed the prairies into the matchless land it is today came from all corners of the globe. Many from Canada- Scots, Irish, French, and English; Yankees came from the East; Scandinavians from Minnesota, Iowa and Wisconsin; Germans, Czechs, Poles and many immigrants from Europe; to form a cosmopolitan community as fine as anybody would ever wish to live in. They tamed the prairies and built the towns and cities, and the rich heritage left to their successors is proof of their unflagging industry and progressive spirit. Many of the early settlers walked the fifty odd miles from Grand Forks. Others came by ox cart or steamboat to Kelly's Landing, twenty five miles east on the Red River, and then walked overland to this

area. The lands were unsurveyed and the elk and deer ran wild. They squatted on the land until it was surveyed and could be claimed as theirs under the Homestead Act. In the fall of 1879 the grass was especially heavy and numerous prairie fires harassed the settlers, and heavy blizzards covered the doors and windows of their cabins and shanties.

When you start to review the history of the town of Park River, you find you are actually involved in the history of three distinct settlements: Kensington, Garfield and Park River. The process of founding the town of Park River was not without some tragic aspects. A budding village of Golden Valley called Garfield, six miles to the Northwest, and Kensington Settlement two miles to the East, both aspired to be the metropolis of Walsh County. But when Jim Hill, the empire builder, decided that the Minneapolis, St. Paul and Manitoba railroad should go through what is now Park River, and not Kensington or Garfield, these settlements lost their identities as possible sites for the town of Park River.

Kensington Settlement

Let us consider first the Kensington Settlement. The Homestead Act of 1862 brought settlers into the Red River Valley, though the first didn't arrive in the Park River area until 1878. They could get title to 160 acres of rich black soil if they lived on it for five years, or if they paid \$1.25 an acre, they could get title to it in six months. Most of the early settlers sought claims along the river for water and timber. Partly to bring the settlers closer together, they divided the timber with others, so most of the claims of 160 acres were $\frac{1}{4}$ of a mile along the Park River and 1 mile in depth.

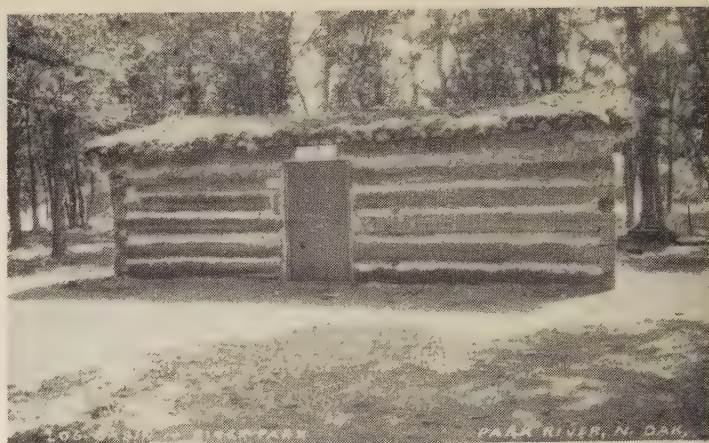
The very first permanent settler in the vicinity of Park River for agricultural purposes was Charles G. Oaks, an old Hudson Bay employee, who settled at what was known as Kensington in November 1878. Mr. Oaks and those who came later, constituted what became known as the Scotch Settlement. The next oldest settler was Charles F. Ames who settled here Jan. 16, 1879. The first birth in the neighborhood was Nellie M. Ames in March, 1880, the daughter of Charles Ames. Sarah Ross was the first in the settlement to die. On the occasion of her death the settlers purchased four acres for a cemetery. McKenzie's wife died soon afterwards and the counters from his store were used to make her coffin. Charles Ames had put in a Diamond feed mill and a horse power. Settlers came on snow shoes often 15 miles to have graham flour made by this mill. Others came with oxen from greater distances, taking three days to make the trip. The water witch attracted considerable attention and successfully located underground streams of running water- in many cases within a few feet of where the much more expensive method of using wellsweeps with a bucket on a rope had failed.

The incident is told of one of the first settlers who had his ear frozen off, and returning to Canada, left the ear to hold his claim until his return.

Some of the early settlers who came to Kensington in 1878 and 1879 were Charles G. Oaks, Charles F. Ames, William and Alex Bruce, James Smith, George Brown, Ed Carman, Thos Wadge, Charles Honey, Wm., Ed and B. Code, William Craig, John and Fred Robb, Pete Campbell, William Burbidge and John Baird.

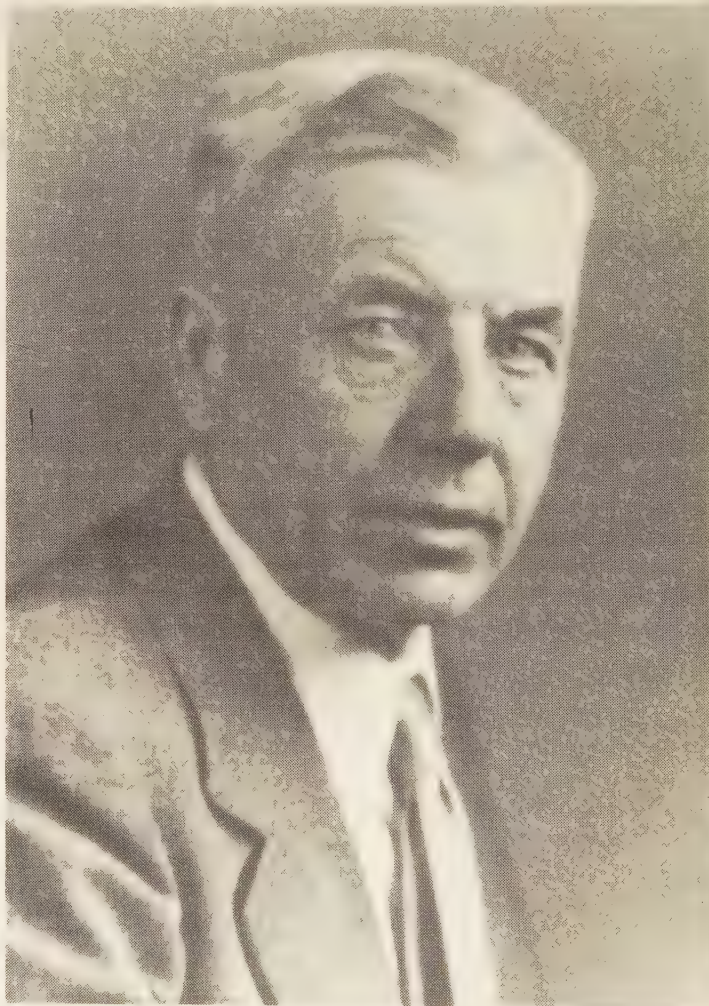
Another of the very first settlers were Mr. and Mrs. John Wadge and their daughter and her husband- Mr. and Mrs. George Nicklin. These settlers came from Ontario, Canada, in 1879. The Nicklins settled in old Kensington where they built a log house. A daughter was born to them on Aug. 4, 1880. She later became the wife of G.W. Young, a prominent Park River lawyer. Mrs. Young claims to be the first white girl born in Kensington.

An account written by the late Chester Thompson of Park River tells that in December 1878, his father- Thomas Thompson,



Cabin built by Charles Oaks. This cabin in River Park was donated by John Harris.

A.I. Anderson, Hans Robertson and Hans Johnson started from the area around Bachelor's Grove or Elk Valley and came to the Kensington area. They found one settler named Charley Oaks who had squatted on a piece of land about two miles east of Park River. They arrived in the evening and found two women in a log cabin there. They learned there were two families living in the small cabin and that the men had gone to Grand Forks for



"Chester Thompson"

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provisions. (Note- This same cabin is now in Park River in River Park donated by John Harris who later became the owner of this farm.) The four men picked out claims but did not put up cabins until the following spring. Mr. Thompson sold his claim at Bachelor's Grove and came to Kensington. He erected his cabin in what is now Fertile Township, Sec. 12. He was married in 1879 in this same cabin by a Rev. Harstad, and it was here his son Chester was born on Nov. 9, 1880, the first white boy born in the area. Hans Robertson homesteaded the SW¼ of Sec. 16 in Fertile Township. He was the father of the first wife of Congressman Usher Burdick, and also the father of Willie Robertson, who had the first livery barn here in Park River. The post office was established April 27, 1879, with Mr. McKenzie as postmaster. When the township was organized in 1882, C.H. Honey was elected as first chairman of the Board of Supervisors. The post office was moved on July 11, 1882, to the home of Charles Honey and he served as postmaster.

The Meeting Place

July 4, 1880, the Canadian settlers met to discuss the making of the first school house. Each had contributed logs or some other material toward the construction of the building. The logs were hewn and \$125 was contributed for hardware, hinges, etc. Here Thomas Catherwood taught the first class of 18 pupils in the Spring of 1881. Also the first religious services were conducted here twice every Sunday until their more permanent churches and schools were established.

At this July 4th meeting, the Canadian settlers knew very little of the United States customs and traditions, but they had sworn allegiance to the government and felt honor bound to celebrate their natal day. Someone suggested they read the Declaration of Independence. Not many knew what this was, so called on Thomas Catherwood to read it. At once it was recognized as a fitting thing to be read each Fourth of July.

In 1884, W.A. Bateman started a new school and taught for one year. He was succeeded by M.E. Quigley. The enrollment was 82 and increased to 120 by the winter term. The need for a larger school was evident. The four room school was enlarged to eight rooms with plans for two more rooms. It was heated by steam, single seated, had a laboratory and other modern improvements. It ranked among the best in the state. In 1894 and 1895 it graduated two from high school with valid credits to enter the University of North Dakota without further examinations. At this time the enrollment was 292.

An interesting incident of the early years is related by Carl M. Sagen. Mr. Sagen came to Dakota Territory in 1879 and filed on land midway between what is now Grafton and Park River. His son also named Carl, tells of the buffalo bone picking days of the early 1880s. This proved to be an economic factor, as it helped tide many families over the first years of pioneering, providing the only cash income during the summer while waiting for the fall harvest. At first they were a nuisance to homesteaders because many of the older bones were deeply embedded into the soil and grass roots and when struck by the share of a light breaking plow they would throw it out of the furrow. Later the large bones and skulls had to be hauled away, but in 1885 a market was established at Park River. The prices paid, as Mr. Sagen recalled, ranged from \$7.00 to \$13.00 a ton. A few dollars went far and bought a lot of flour, salt pork, dried fruit and other groceries, together with some yard goods for Mother to make into garments for us kids. Also a sack of horehound and barber pole striped candy for us. The Sagens lived about ten miles west of Park River, and after the first couple of years the bones were pretty well picked up. However, about 10 to 15 miles west of them,

the land was still vacant and covered with bones and was called "No Man's Land."

Among the early settlers who came to Park River were George Dobmeier and Frank Falter. They came from Columbia, Ohio, in 1879. They found the railroad had been built as far as Grand Forks at that time. They traveled to Park River with a team of oxen and two cows, and settled two miles west of the present city



Early settlers traveled with oxen.

of Park River. No land in that area had been settled then and they built log cabins in the timber near the river where water and firewood were plentiful. The cabins had dirt floors. Dug-out barns for the cattle were built in the hillside. Mr. Dobmeier acquired three quarters of land, a homestead, a pre-emption and a tree claim. Mr. Falter had the same amount of land. Mr. Dobmeier planted 11 acres of trees on the tree claim and the grove is still flourishing two miles west of Park River along Highway 17. Just opposite is a cemetery to which the Dobmeiers and Falters each donated half an acre of land.

The first crop was threshed by horse power and the grain was hauled to Grand Forks by oxen, taking over two weeks to make the round trip. There were no bridges and the river near Manvel



Breaking the land with oxen

had a soft bottom. As the wagon wheels were very narrow, the farmers feared getting stuck with the load, so they unloaded the sacks of wheat and drove the empty wagon across the river, then carried the sacks of wheat across on their backs.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Dobmeier, grandparents of George Dobmeier, came to this area in the spring of 1880 and settled 3½ miles west of Park River on what is now the Jacob Dobmeier farm. The story goes that the day he was looking over the land, two men with a team of horses and a buggy called and told him that they were going to have that land for themselves. Whereupon, the late Mr. Dobmeier walked to Grand Forks, traveling on foot all night and got his filing in ahead of them.

Garfield Settlement

Next let us turn to the settlement of Garfield and learn a little about its history. In the early summer of 1880, a party of Norwegian land prospectors from Iowa visited what later became Walsh County. They returned to Iowa and sent a large number of their fellow countrymen to possess the land here. They settled in and around Townships 156-157 naming it Garfield Township for the United States President who during that year was assassinated. The post office named for the township was established Oct. 18, 1880, on Sec. 21 with Knute Levang as postmaster. In the early summer of 1882, grading was commenced on the Northern Pacific Railroad south of here, which attracted to this section an emigration that soon settled every quarter section of land from 10 to 20 miles west and north to the boundary line.

Garfield was a busy trading center and cherished the ambition of eventually becoming the county seat of Walsh County. The first settlement was made in the Golden Valley in the spring of 1881, the land not then being on the market, and before fall the entire valley was settled. In the early part of 1882, Mr. B.M. Leach opened a general store. A short time after that Amber and Lunde and the Clementson brothers opened general stores; C.L. Finneseth- hardware; C.O. Berg and Wilson and Wege- saloons; Harrison and Simons- hotel; W.S. Post and Omeland- blacksmith shops; later a land office of the firm of Douglas and Farup was opened. Page and White removed a stock of general merchandise from Grafton to Garfield about May 1. Dr. James Robertson came to Garfield from Moorhead, Minn., early in February of 1883. He also had a small stock of drugs and medicines and operated a drug store.



"JIM O'BRIEN, Park River"

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The Garfield House was first opened by Harrison and Simons who ran it successfully for several months. About December N.R. Carman took over. Garfield had two saloons- The Garfield Sample Room run by John Wilson and the City Billiard Hall presided over by Chris Berg. The Garfield Gazette started in 1882 with W.W. Gilbert as publisher.

Both the Northern Pacific and the St. Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba Railroad lines had extended their surveys to this village, but before actual construction began, James J. Hill, the great empire builder, changed his mind and the railroad was constructed several miles east and Park River came into existence. Such was the tragic end of hopeful Garfield and on August 14, 1884, the Garfield Gazette was published for the last time and the building and materials transported to the new town. The tragic end of Garfield is graphically recounted by Judge

George Shepherd: "It was about the middle of August and I was working on the farm now known as the Alden Dairy, cutting wheat along the famous Garfield trail, when I noticed a caravan approaching. There were three frame buildings on wheels, two farm wagons under each of them with four horses hitched to each wagon. The first building was Dr. Robertson's Drug Store, Next came J. Ofstedahl's general store, and the last building had Garfield Gazette nailed over the doorway. In the doorway sat a tall, rawboned swarthy individual with a gun over his shoulder, dressed in full cowboy regalia topped off with a 10 gallon Coolidge



"GREAT NORTHERN RAILROAD SHED & TOWER, 1924"
FRED HULTSTRAND "HISTORY IN PICTURES"

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hat. "Hey friend," he called to me, "how far are we from Guiteau?" "Guiteau?" I asked, "What do you mean?" "Aren't you an American?" he asked disgustedly. "I am," I replied. "Then you ought to know that the man Guiteau killed President Garfield and that's what your blooming town had done to our little village, she is a dead Garfield." So the drug stores, hardware stores, general stores, notaries and land agents, blacksmiths, hotel and newspaper and the residents all moved to the wheat field that had been platted for Park River. Some of them did not wait for the grain to be cut, such was their haste to settle in a good spot close to the railroad. "That evening," recalled the judge, "we quit harvesting early and went to the new town of Park River, which was located in the middle of a wheat field. It was amusing to see D.D. Briggs rushing around with a binder in a vain attempt to save wheat that the enthusiastic people were ruthlessly trampling down. A few days before, the judge continued, "I happened to be in Park River when the Teel saloon building was moved from Grafton. Eight horses were hitched to the contraption, but only the heads of the horses showed above the tall wheat as they plunged ahead, disregarding roads and other consideration, and did not stop before they had the old shack firmly placed on a conspicuous corner along main street."

Park River

And so finally we come to the town of Park River. In the year 1881 Walsh County was organized by an act of the legislative assembly of the Territory of Dakota. The act proposed to take two tiers of townships 155-156 from Grand Forks County and two tiers of townships 157-158 from Pembina County, and these four tiers of townships were to be formed into a new county to be known as Walsh County. This act was vetoed by Gov. Nehemiah Ordway, but on Feb. 18, 1881, it was passed over the governor's

veto.

In 1884 the Manitoba Railroad was extended from Larimore to Park River and was the terminus of this road. Two towns were surveyed out, one by Mr. Inkerman Davis and the other by the railroad company. It was originally intended that Park River should have been built east of the railroad tracks, but Inkerman Davis, the owner of the land, was holding out for exorbitant prices, so the townsite company passed him by and had the land surveyed on the west side and refused to plat the land adjacent to



Main Street looking north

Inkerman Davis' holdings. Park River was kind of a dark horse among the pioneer towns. It was expected that it would bear the name of Kensington, a post office which had been in existence for many years. Instead it was called Park River. In this vicinity stood the famous "Half-Way House" where William Code dispensed hospitality. Here the farmers from the west lodged when they hauled wheat to Grafton or transacted business at the county seat.

The hotel was not pretentious. It measured perhaps 14 by 16 feet. A heating stove stood in the middle of the room and the mattresses were strewn all over the floor. The guests would sleep with their feet toward the blazing fire and all found the quarters highly satisfactory.



"EARLY PARK RIVER"

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The town of Park River was organized in December 1884. The first election was held Dec. 30, 1884. The following officers were elected: President- Dr. J.G. Millspauh; Trustee- James Robertson; Trustee- James L. Currie; Town Clerk- W.D Bates; Town Marshall- Thomas Simon; Town Treasurer- Oliver I.

Hamilton; Justice of the Peace- John H. McCullough; Official Paper- Park River Gazette; Night Watch- James Dynes.

Park River remained the terminus of the railroad for a year and grew like a mushroom. It became a thriving center of an immense trading territory. However, a couple of years later, a fire wiped out half of its business section, which numbered between 40 and 50 business houses of one kind or another located on Briggs Avenue.

Park River had its quota of saloons. Two outstanding dispensers of "the cup that cheers" were Timley and Jones. Timley's place was a veritable Monte Carlo, the first building in town equipped with an elevator. A stage was built in the west end of the faro and roulette room and it served as an opera house for several years. Jones' saloon was a palatial affair with plenty of scenery. The saloon men of the 80's were the best dressed men in town. Flashy diamonds, handlebar mustaches, railroad hair cuts, and handmade alligator shoes typified the calling. The saloon industry went out of business with the admission of the state into the union in 1889. The drug stores took over the selling of liquor and then only by the "permit system." Suddenly there was a great affliction of all kinds of diseases from falling hair to fallen arches which required a certain kind of medicine as a cure. This permit system and the publishing of the names of recipients gave birth to three new classes of inter-state activities: blind pigging, bootlegging and "snooping." Free transportation across the river to Minnesota where liquor could still be obtained was furnished by "jag wagons" and these were always loaded, carrying customers and their cash across the Red River.



"CITY--SUMMER 1890"

FRED HULTSTRAND "HISTORY IN PICTURES"

North Dakota Institute for Regional Studies,

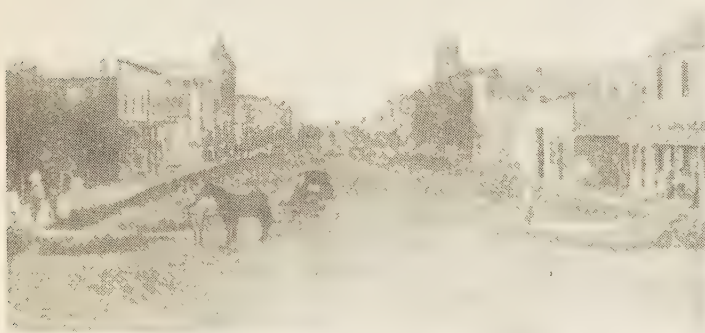
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The year 1901 found Park River a thriving, growing, prosperous city. Records show the population to be between 1400-1500. The Park River trade territory had unlimited horizons to the west. There were five elevators and a flour mill buying grain and several track buyers who shoveled grain by hand from farmer wagon to box car. On many occasions farmers had to remain in town overnight and unload the next morning. Market prices that year were: wheat- .88½ a bushel; flax- .82; and barley-.29 to .33. The business places in town included four general stores, three clothing stores, five groceries, two meat markets, three confectionaries, one bakery, three drug stores, two hardware stores, three lumber yards, four hotels, seven or eight restaurants, two banks, a furniture store and mortuary, two newspapers, five implement shops, three large livery and feed stables and three other barns where farmers could stable their horses while in town, and four blacksmith shops. The official



"EARLY DAYS, 1896"
FRED HULTSTRAND "HISTORY IN PICTURES"
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directory listed five churches, a grade and high school, four doctors, two dentists, four attorneys, and two veterinarians. There was a bucket shop where speculators could buy and sell grain futures. There were also small harness shops and repair shops, an enclosed skating rink and a factory where Sam Holland later built automobiles. This was the picture presented by the City of Park River in January 1901. The night of Jan. 20, a fire of unknown origin destroyed the Palace Drug Store and the E.B. Woodward Tonsorial Parlor. By the diligent effort of J.B. Taintor, who had a well on his lot and had recently purchased a new gadget called a gasoline engine equipped with a water pump



"MAIN STREET, 1899"
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and some hose, the walls of the adjoining buildings were kept wet and confined the fire to the two buildings. The city continued on its busy way until the evening of the great holocaust- Feb. 28. The temperature recorded at Grand Forks was 59 degrees with a wind which reached a velocity of between 50 and 60 miles per hour. There wasn't much snow on the ground, so it melted rapidly. At 6:45 p.m. the fire alarm sounded from a bell on the City Hall. Fire had been discovered in the back room of the hardware store of Lofthus, Bannerman and Booth.

The fire spread to the Walstrom Department Store and destroyed it, then south to Hall and Brandt's Mens Furnishings, Henry Anderson's Drug Store, Thorson Brothers grocery and confection, The Dunn Drug Store, Joe Irwin's Confectionary, J.B. Taintor Meat Market and T.T. Thompson's grocery and dry

goods. Fire started in the east side of the street when a piece of burning debris lodged in the awning of one of the buildings. The John Aamoth building of brick construction was saved, as was The Bank of Park River which was also constructed of brick. The barber shop operated by Charles Soll burned. Other stores that burned were a bakery and Confectionary store, a tailor shop, a shoe repair and harness shop, O.E. Hasle's Hardware store, Arnovick's Clothing and Dry Goods, a jewelry store and an implement shop. Along with them went all the apartments and professional offices on the second floors of the various buildings. A burning shingle was blown and lodged in the cupola of the P.V. Elevator and the structure was soon in flames. When farmers arrived in town to watch the fire, their teams and sleighs were immediately pressed into service to salvage merchandise from the stores in the path of the fire. An engine and tank car were rushed up from Larimore to move the railroad cars to safety and to stand by in case the depot caught fire.

By morning the fire was burned out and desolation reigned supreme. In the days following there was much discussion about the future. Some thought the town was through and would never be rebuilt. Others thought the west side would be rebuilt and not the east. Others thought that the town would rise from the ashes and be better than before and they proved right. The City Council passed an ordinance that all buildings to be erected must be of brick construction. The spring, summer and fall of 1901 proved to be the busiest in the history of Park River. The City Council also decided that a more modern and better supply of water must be made available and so they installed a pressure water system. They decided to have an electric lighting system and telephone system.



"FIRE, 1901"
FRED HULTSTRAND "HISTORY IN PICTURES"
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Later in the year they voted to establish the Public Library. When 1902 calendars were being hung on the wall, Park River was a modern city in every respect. It boasted the finest business section of any city in the state, with tap water, electricity, telephone service and a public library and business was booming.

Just a few "High-Lights" down through the succeeding years: In 1904 the Soo Line ran three surveys into Park River and on West, but a few leaders of the business interests chose not to encourage them as they believed that a junction of two railroads would be more harmful than if the Soo Line ran a parallel survey twelve miles west. They were wrong in their judgment and the Soo Line sliced off a big part of Park River's Territory, with the

result that in five years following, it lost a third of its population.

Sam Holland was the local mechanical wizard. He demonstrated the first electric light in town by setting up a small plant in his shop. He later manufactured automobiles- namely the Holland Special.



"The Sam Holland Special" (L-R): Mr. and Mrs. (Gunnel) William Skjerven, Sr.; Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Berger.

The big local industry was the flour mill owned by Fred and George Honey. Their product was known far and wide.

When the high school went in for football, one of the first coaches it had was Vilhjalmer Steffanson, who later gained fame as an Arctic Explorer. He was then attending the university at Grand Forks and came up to Park River between trains to coach the team.

Fays Rooming House once stood on the corner which is now occupied by the Walsh County Curling Club. It was built in 1893 by Tom Catherwood. "Big Tom" as he was called, owned and operated a clothing store and, later on, a jewelry store.

J.B. Taintor owned the first gas buggy in Park River, which was assessed at \$100.

Horse racing and baseball were the favorite early day sports. A half mile track was built where the present day high school is located.

The Standard Oil Company owned the land upon which Park River was eventually built (the title was held by a certain Archibald, an official of the company). On a farm a couple of

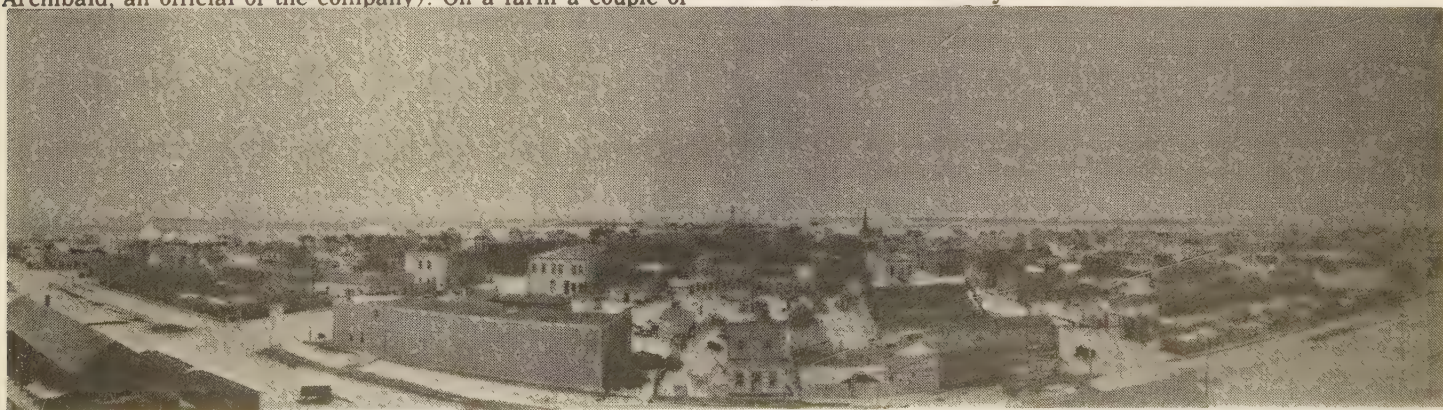
miles east of Park River known as the Arnot farm, lived a Dr. Livingston, the father of John D. Rockefeller Sr. He found it convenient to change his name to Dr. Livingston. He was a methodical farmer and made money farming and also as a veterinarian. He generally held aloof from the roustabout farmers. This farm is now occupied by Vernie Larson.

Outstanding in the names of the pioneers who built Park River is the name of Roger Allin, the fourth Governor of North Dakota. Governor Allin homesteaded in Fertile Township, Walsh County on a 240 acre tract, Plat 22, in 1879. He and C.H. Honey conducted church services in the Kensington settlement until the services of a regular pastor was secured. The former farm of Gov. Allin is now owned and operated by Jens Torkelson. The late Gov. Allin is buried in Memorial Park Cemetery, Park River. His town residence in Park River after he retired was located on Code Avenue South.

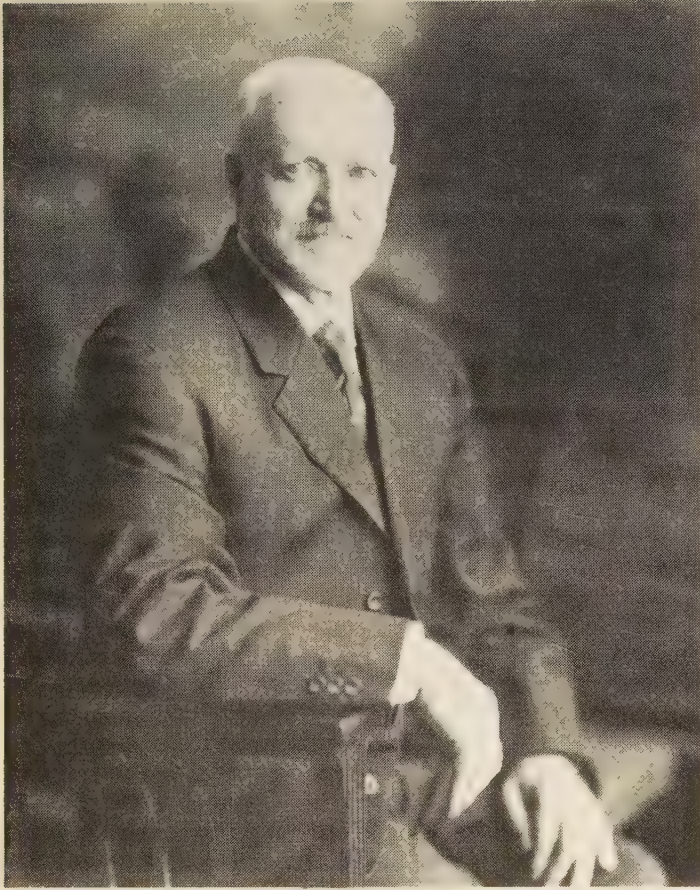


**"THRESHING SCENE NEAR PARK RIVER"
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Another name of note connected with early Park River is the name Sinclair Lewis. He was the former owner of the farm which is now owned by Jay Penas, 2½ miles south of Park River. While Mr. Lewis never lived in this area, and is said to have purchased the farm through a land agent as an investment, the glamour of his famous name indicated that this information should be included in this history.



**"PANORAMIC VIEW, 1903"
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"GOVERNOR ALLIN"
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Another landmark which has been completely demolished is the "Old Post House" which was located on the Charles Oaks farm. This was a stopping place for the stagecoach and mail coach and a place where weary travelers might stay the night. It stood for many years a deserted sentinel. If walls could talk, they could have related some interesting tales. This farm is now operated by the Dub family.

Still another landmark of note is The City Park or "Village Green." This City Park land was donated by A.H. Bode. According to the deed dated Jan. 23, 1883, the land was first owned by Charles H. Johnson. It included 160 acres- the SE¼ of the NW¼, Section 28, Township 157-55. Johnson sold this land to



Wading Pool in City Park or "Village Green".

Pearson D. Briggs on May 26, 1883. In 1884 Briggs sold all of it to Bode. Bode sold part of it to J. Birkwalter and platted Block 17 to be used as the Village Square, or as it was known then, as the Village Green. Since then it has been maintained by the City. The Fountain was a gift from the Women's Christian Temperance Union. Beautiful shrubs and flowerbeds surrounded this area. An



"The Village Green"



"4 JULY IN PARK RIVER"
FRED HULTSTRAND "HISTORY IN PICTURES"
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imposing Band Stand, which has since been demolished, was an important part of the fixtures of the park, with the City Band playing concerts on Saturday evenings and Sunday afternoons. Mr. Clarke Eaton was the leader of the City Band for many



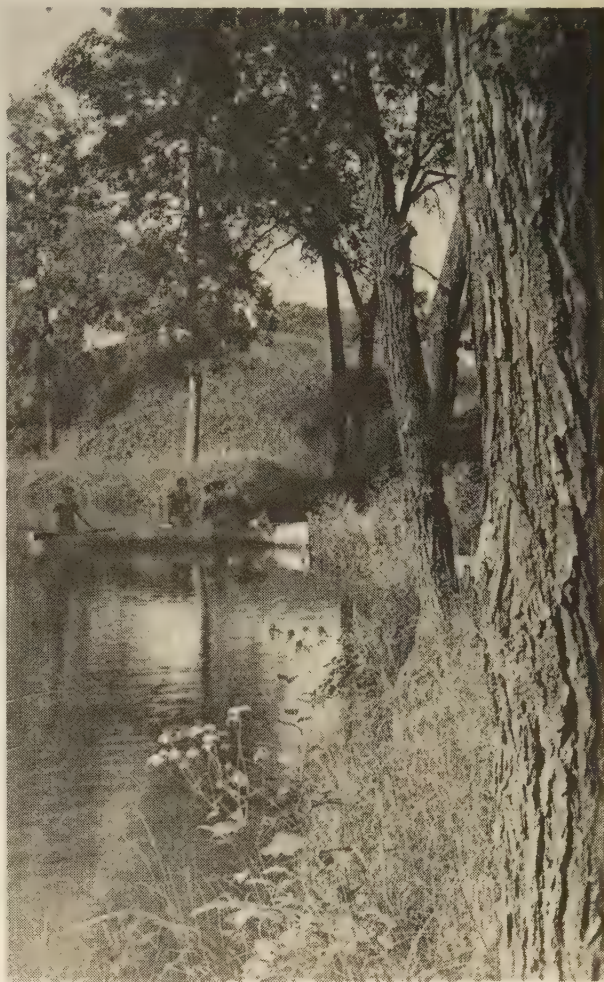
One of the finest City Bands at the "Village Green."

years. The Park was also used as the site for many camp meetings and tent shows- chief among them being the Chautauqua- when a huge tent was erected and a week-long event of the finest grade entertainment was presented. The Chautauqua programs included noted speakers discussing pertinent problems of the day, orchestras, vocal groups, stage productions (Both comedy and drama), and each morning a



LaLier Park

meeting of JUNIOR TOWN- an organization of the town boys and girls under a Junior Town supervisor, which culminated on the last day with a pageant, "America's Knighthood" put on by the children. Truly this park played an important part in the early history of Park River.



LaLier Park

Thanks to the enterprise of Mr. Ferier L'Alier, a private park and recreational and amusement spot was built and maintained by him for a few years before the First World War around 1911. A dam was constructed at the lower end of the property which was located in the northeast part of town and along the Park River. On the other side of the dam a trestle pathway was constructed to



LaLier Park



LaLier Park

serve as an approach to the arch bridge which spans the river below the dam to make the famous spring accessible to visitors. The bridge was a unique piece of architecture. The highest point of the arch was twenty five feet above the water. A boat landing was constructed and seven row boats were put into commission.



LaLier Park

He next planned to build a row of bathhouses and a dance pavilion. It made the park a very pleasant place to spend an idle summer hour. History related he had some trouble with vandalism, also that he offered to turn the Park over to the City, but the City Fathers thought it would be too expensive to maintain, so refused the offer and Mr. LaLier no longer allowed people to use the park facilities.



LaLier Park

In 1912, the city acquired a 110 acre wooded plot of land adjoining the city to the north and through which flows the Park



"River Park"- Park River (Coliseum).

River. A good deal of money has been spent in developing the Park's natural beauty. River Park now contains a golf course, a baseball diamond, a club house, a large dance pavilion, two swimming pools, playground equipment and many areas equipped with picnic facilities. It contains a natural amphitheater where the annual Fourth of July celebrations are held. Later improvements include a softball court and the



"The Old Swimming Hole"

installation of grass greens, making the golf course one of the best in the state.

The original school house was destroyed by fire on Jan. 2, 1921, and with it went many nostalgic memories: the old courtyard where pupils lined up after recess, the school bell which tolled warning not to be late, the large building which housed the



Northwest Entrance to River Park.

outdoor toilet facilities, and the furnace room where pupils ate their sack lunches when weather was too bad to permit going home for noon lunch, the pole in the Physics laboratory on third floor by which one could descend to the next floor in a very few minutes. The new school was built and completed in 1923. In the two years interim, pupils had classes in the church basements, lodge halls, etc. The Park River High School continued to operate until 1933, when the high school pupils were transferred to the Walsh County Agricultural School and the Eight Grades continued to use the building.



Foot Bridge in River Park.



Railroad Bridge on Park River.



"CELEBRATION MAIN STREET"

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"PARADE 1916"

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The visions of the early pioneers who first founded Park River have been fulfilled beyond their wildest dreams in the ensuing years. Every decade since has brought changes, progress and developments. To enumerate all the changes, the improvements, the growth, the plans for the future would fill a large volume.

To the original townsite as first platted, have been added thirteen additions, namely: the Railroad Addition in 1888, Harvey's Addition in 1893, Lord's Addition in 1893, Honey Addition in 1895, Birder Additions- the first in 1896 and the second in 1905, Kohnen's Addition in 1897, Dillon's Addition Subdivision in 1946, Harvey's Re-Plat- the first in 1949 and the second in 1957, Kensington Subdivision in 1957, and the first addition to the Kensington Subdivision in 1959, Meagher Acres Subdivision in 1967, Park Ridge Estates Addition was added in 1968 and the second addition in 1971, Meagher Suburb Addition in 1972 and South Ridge Addition in 1972.

Destroyed by fire, the Park River Grade School and High School and the City Hall have been replaced by modern structures. Also replaced and modernized is the City Light Plant and the Great Northern Depot. The streets have been paved, curb

and gutters put in, an adequate street lighting system installed, street signs have been erected and houses and streets numbered. The lagoon type sewage system was first tried and later changed to a City Joint Garbage Disposal System and the use of a City Landfill.



Park River in 1932.

New buildings erected include the Curling Club, the Good Samaritan Nursing Home, the American Legion Club House, Gate City Savings and Loan, Housing and Urban Development low cost housing, Polar Communications Buildings, one of the most up-to-date Gymnasiums in North Dakota, a building to house the Walsh County Fair and State Potato Show, St. Ansgar's Hospital, Walsh County Press, and multiple potato houses and plants.

Most of the buildings on Main Street have received "face lifts" and been modernized, yet retain their look of being here since Park River was founded.

Dozens of beautiful homes have been built; half a dozen apartment complexes. Many retired farmers from the surrounding areas have moved to Park River to spend their

leisure years in this beautiful little city with all it has to offer: fine schools, beautiful churches, a golf course, bowling alley, curling club, swimming pools, a skating rink with artificial ice, service clubs, recreational clubs, cable TV, several parking areas near the business section, tennis courts, boating, fishing and water skiing.

Also unlimited possibilities for future growth with the certain knowledge that our thriving little city of Park River will continue to keep step with whatever the future has in store for it. It is well named- Park River- "THE HEART OF WALSH COUNTY."

Note: You will notice in this history there are no references to the history of the churches, the schools, the business community or the city government. Each one of these will have its own history written and will be included in the Centennial Book.

Most of the files of the several newspapers published in the early years of Park River have been destroyed by two fires, so the sources of the above information are from scattered records found in some of the older homes of the community, and from the memory of citizens who have lived here for many years. As bits of written information from here and there, filled in from memory, cannot be 100 percent correct in every detail, it never-the less will serve the purpose until corrected. A few of the sources from which the following information has been compiled are as follows: C.A. Lounsberry in The Record, which was published at Fargo in March 1896; Mrs. George W. Young, the daughter of George Nicklin- one of the first settlers in Kensington; Chester Thompson, the son of Thomas Thompson- one of the first settlers in Kensington; Carl A. Sagen- former Park River resident whose father, Carl M. Sagen, came to Dakota Territory in 1879; Oswald F. Brett of Park River, who compiled the history of two disastrous fires; Frank Prochaska- former editor of the Walsh County Press; Opal Martyn Cramer- daughter of John Avery Martyn, early pioneer; Harry O'Brien- Editor and Publisher of the Walsh County Press; Rosamond O'Brien Lowe- Editor of the Walsh County Press and originator of the column "Short Stops;" Judge George Sheperd- early pioneer in Kensington, County Commissioner and later judge in Walsh County for 32 years.

This history was compiled and re-written by Thelma Wick, using the above listed sources of information.



1801: Park River Fur Trading Post, near the mouth of the Park River, was abandoned by Alexander Henry, eight months after it had been established.

1880: "The railroad reached Grand Forks with engineer John Bunnell bringing in a combination work and immigration train."

1881: Dakota Territory Legislature overrode veto creating Walsh County from parts of Grand Forks and Pembina County, subject to approval at a special election of electors within the boundary of the new county.

Park River: Our Earliest Years, 1884-1887

Foreword:

They are all gone. Every last family name of those people who founded our town in 1884 has disappeared. The Catherwoods, McEwans, Libbys, Curries, Thorsons and Beechers, the Honeys, Doughertys, Finneseths, Farups and Camerons, and dozens of others have all passed on into history. And with them has gone the memory of their hopes and deeds and problems. The children of today don't know their town's past any more than I did when I was their age.

They might have a grandfather who can tell them what it was like way, way back in the Depression, or a father who can tell them (with a great deal of truth) that things haven't changed that much since way back in the 50's or 60's. But no one alive today can tell them what life in Park River was really like when the town was as young as they are today. No one a century ago ever sat down to describe life in his town. I suppose those things were just too commonplace to be written about--no one could possibly be interested in the life of an ordinary person in an ordinary town. These people didn't realize that what they did, what they thought, could be of interest to us, a century later.

In this centennial year, though, we ought to try to bring back to life at least a tiny part of our heritage, and such is the purpose of this brief look back at the first three years of Park River history. I wish I could have done more, but nearly all the information available comes from the issues of the Park River Gazette, and I was able to go through only the issues for the years 1884-1887.

You, the reader, will find that many things were really different "way back then"--horses and ox-drawn wagons crowded the streets; we had wooden sidewalks (where there were any); the streets were dusty, apple-strewn and unlit; no one had running water and everyone had privies; Briggs Avenue was crowded with noisy saloons, each with its piano player and big plate glass windows. And yet, many things weren't all that different--Park Riverites were concerned about the weather and the price of wheat upon which their prosperity depended; they were concerned with good government and schooling for the children; they poked fun at Grafton, that "city of iniquity"; they valued the contribution of religion; they used some of the same products that we do--the Yale locks in the post office, the Schlitz Milwaukee Lager Beer in the saloons, the LePage's glue and Faber pencils in the school.

This history is incomplete. It covers only that brief period in the 1880's when Park River was the terminus of the railroad branch line north from Larimore. It is limited, as is all history, to the evidence that survives. What I have tried to do is to provide some insight into the problems that Park Riverites faced in their earliest years and to describe a small part of life as it was in a community that boomed temporarily on the northern plains in the mid-1880's.



Park River got off to a mixed start; its beginning was both planned and confused. The Saint Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba Railroad (popularly known as the Manitoba) established a townsite in an unharvested wheat field at the northern terminus of the branch line it ran north from Larimore in late summer 1884. It intended to run a railway into this area soon enough to ship out the year's wheat harvest along the new branch line. To

this extent, everything proceeded according to plan. The first train arrived at the new settlement over an unballasted track on August 23, 1884. In the weeks following, train after train brought in lumber for the construction of elevators, other business establishments and homes, and brought out wheat. By the end of the year the new community of Park River was thriving and it would continue to expand for much of the next three years.

There was, however, more than a little bit of confusion. Not only did the townsite company have to change the location of the new town, it even had to change the town's name. The company had originally planned to locate the new community to the east of the tracks. But, according to very imprecise sources, the owner of much of that land, Inkerman Davis, held out for too high a price, so the company surveyed a site mostly to the west of the tracks. Rumor has it that much of this land was purchased from J.D. Archbold, a man who was soon to be president of Standard Oil Company.

Inkerman Davis, obviously not a man to be dismayed by a single failure, had an area of his own claim quickly surveyed as a townsite. For his town, the land to the east of Prospect Avenue and north of the highway, Mr. Davis had initially considered the name of Riverside, but instead settled on Kensington, the name the railroad's townsite company had originally intended for Park River. Presumably Davis completed his survey and got his land on the market first, for the townsite company had changed the name of its town to Park River when the lots first went up for sale in mid-August 1884.

This small story illustrates one of the truths of early life on the prairie: in competition with organized capital, the little guy could win only a small battle, not the war. Davis got the name, but few buyers. When the townsite company began selling its lots, the businessmen from Kensington, Garfield and Grafton snapped them up.

The new town's newspaper clearly showed the confusion about names. The Gazette printed its first issue on Friday, August 22, 1884, the day before the first train arrived. Its editor, W.W. Gilbert, had wisely and hurriedly decided to relocate from the doomed village of Garfield, but as he set up the first issue, it would seem that he did not know where he had settled. The banner of the paper read The Park River Gazette. But at the top left of page two the paper is identified as The Garfield Gazette, while the upper left corner of the fourth page identifies Gilbert as the editor of The Kensington Gazette.

The identity confusion quickly straightened itself out, and the new town thrived. But Park River didn't grow to the size that the townsite company had hoped. The original plat of the town showed 36 surveyed blocks of 24 lots each. But an 1893 map of Park River reveals only 23 blocks; ten blocks on the east side of the tracks were never developed. The site began with Second Street on the north and continued past Seventh Street on the south. The western edge of the original town was Wadge Avenue, followed by Harris, Code, Briggs, Railroad Avenue West, Railroad Avenue East and Honey. At the eastern edge of the never-developed area was to have been University Avenue, located probably where Veterans' Avenue now is.

Briggs Avenue (named either after P.D. Briggs, the manager of Dr. Livingston's farm east of town, or after his uncle, P.D. Briggs, an official of Standard Oil and brother-in-law of John D. Rockefeller) and Fifth Street were intended as the main

thoroughfares, each being 88' wide, while most of the other streets had a width of only 66'. The townsite company was generous in disposing of its land. It donated two blocks for public usage--Block 17 as a public square and Block 13 (the second block east from the depot) as the location for a public school. It later gave the town a lot on which to build a city jail, and to George Gross, the father of the first child born in the city, it gave a lot for a house.

As the first issue of the Gazette came from the crude army press, the town was already beginning to take shape. It was a roughhewn affair; the only completed buildings were those which, like the Gazette office and Dr. Robertson's office, had been transported overland from Garfield or Kensington. The southern end of the business district was Thomas Catherwood's store. P.D. Briggs had just finished threshing what remained of the wheat field in which the town was built. Christian Finneseth and John Ofstedahl had their counters set up in temporary shanties. Diebel and Langan were among the quickest off the mark; their new two-story Northwestern Hotel was to have gone into operation on that day.

Things were shaping up by the middle of September. The Robertson brothers' lumber yard building was completed. (Incidentally, their advertisements gave their address as Fourth Street and Railroad Avenue West. Can it be that they have been at the same location for a full century?) Trains were arriving daily with more lumber for the growing town. Telegraph service was on. There were at least three general stores, three blacksmiths, a drug store, three hotels, a hardware store and five saloons. Two grain elevators were under construction, and the city had already shipped its first carloads of wheat. According to the estimates of the Gazette 40 businesses were already in operation, and still more enterprising men were arriving with each passing day.

By year's end the Gazette had more to boast about. A half million dollars had been invested in construction since September 15. The post office, with 265 boxes in black walnut cases, was in operation, as was a bank. The land was abundant: 18 farmers reported to the editor on their wheat yields--on average they claimed over 30 bushels per acre. Potato land that yielded 400 bushels per acre was considered "below average". Briggs Avenue alone had at least 37 business establishments. Coal had been discovered at a depth of about 20' by a well driller near one of the elevators. J.T. Peterson of Vernon Township brought in a 17-pound turnip.

There was good reason for this rapid growth, and even those living through the times could see that reason. The Manitoba had selected its site well, moving into an agriculturally developed region. The wheat farmers were already there, ready to ship their produce in the Manitoba's cars. Neither the merchants nor the railroad had to wait two or three years for a market to develop. On one day in October, 75 wagons loaded with wheat waited at the elevator platforms. In the Gazette's estimation the city shipped 500,000 bushels of wheat in its first season. The wheat area tributary to the Park River shipping point was huge. Of the 170,000 acres under cultivation in the county, about 70,000 focused on Park River for shipping. That wasn't the extent of the marketing area; farmers carted their wheat here from as far away as Osnabrock. And where the farmers sold their wheat, there they bought their supplies and equipment. There are no verifiable figures as to the amount of business done, either on credit or in cash, but one illustration of the extent of the boom came in mid-July, 1885, when the Gazette reported that the implement firm of McEwan and Dougherty had sold "only" 115 binders thus far during the season. With a hinterland as large as

it had, Park River's future was assured--as long as the railroad was built "right up to the bank of the Park River" and no farther, and as long as the price of wheat stayed relatively high--around 70 cents per bushel. But bothersome considerations such as these were problems for the future, not for the expansive and confident years of 1884 and 1885.

Soon after the town was established W.W. Gilbert sold the Gazette for reasons of health and W.D. Bates took over. I have attributed the editorial opinion of the paper to him, although his wife Susie, in her mid-20's, was supposed to have been the guiding spirit of the Gazette. Whichever Bates it was that fired the salvos, Grafton was the enemy, trying to manipulate county politics to the detriment of the western half of the county. Until he left Park River in 1887 (ironically to become editor of the Grafton News and Times) Bates was a staunch defender of the interests of the farmer of western Walsh. It must have been no small pleasure to him to have had the Gazette named as the official county newspaper in 1886. It was also profitable; Bates received \$387 for publishing delinquent tax notices in that year. He seldom lost an opportunity to chide Grafton, and especially its leading newspaper. In 1884 he noted a visit of a Grafton editor, "F.M. Winship of the flatulent Grafton News and Times." A year later the following item appeared among the local news: "Why is Calamity Jane of the News and Times like the effects of an old woman's physic?--All Wind-shi(p)t." Dakota newspapers are more refined nowadays.

Bates avidly boosted the new businesses of the city, but unfortunately the locations of those businesses are difficult to ascertain with any degree of precision. Everyone in town of course knew exactly where the establishments were located, and the advertisements of the time gave only general locations like "Northwestern Hotel, Briggs and 4th" or "George Waterman, corner of 3rd and Briggs." Moreover, these early establishments frequently changed ownership (especially the hotels) and location. By 1887, for example, the Gazette was in its fourth building in three years.

Yet we can pinpoint a few locations, thanks to the cash flow problems of some businesses. Then, as now, the County Tax Assessor published his annual list of delinquent property taxes. The list for 1886 notes the following: Dan Ledgerwood's Meat Market, a palatial 16'x16' edifice, was on the corner just east of the Baptist Church. H.J. Randall's Livery occupied lots 8-12 of block 15. S.J. Teel's Palace Saloon stood on the corner north of the City Hall (\$32.35 due). Finneseth's business was located on lot 16, block 15, while George LaVeyea (the townsite agent) owed \$2.50 on the lots where the bakery now stands. E.W. Jones' saloon, the Buckingham Palace, stood on lot 9, block 16 (\$27.80). Tom Catherwood had buildings (the old skating rink and his new 24'x100' store) on lot 12 in both blocks 21 and 16. A certain A.H. Bode owned 37 pieces of delinquent property scattered throughout the town, most of it undeveloped, judging by the size of the assessment. Mr. Bode was either connected with the townsite company or he was speculating in property contrary to the original terms of sale. The townsite company had attempted to discourage speculators by stipulating that construction had to commence on all lots within sixty days of sale. In any event, the business district stretched from the north side of Third and Briggs past Fifth Street, and along Fourth and Fifth Streets to the tracks, a large area given the small number of residents in the town.

The population of Park River was certainly not as high as the figure of 1000 (with a floating population of 300) estimated in the 1886 New Year's issue of the Gazette. The only semi-reliable figures about population are to be found in the June, 1885

territorial census, which, for all its inaccuracies, reveals several interesting things about the town and the people who lived in it.

Most important, the enumerator Peter Mitchell found only 420 citizens. And of those whom he located, no one was old. Only two people were over 60 years of age, and in fact less than ten percent of the population was older than 39. Thomas Libby at age 64 was by three years the oldest person in town.

If husband hunting was a goal, then Park River was indeed a bonanza town. Among the people over the age 19, there were two men for every woman. Almost 60 percent of the people were of the ages 20 to 34.

About one third of the people lived in one of the six hotels. There were four physicians, but no dentist. Periodically an itinerant dentist would set up in the Northwestern Hotel for a week or two to minister to the dental needs of the town. Mrs. William Burbidge, from the Kensington area, provided local news in 1886 by having 26 teeth removed in a single sitting.

Another interesting point is that women (excepting domestic servants and hotel workers) did not work outside the home. Mrs. Ch. Thompson was the only married woman in town whose occupation was other than keeping house; she did laundry. Miss Alice Beecher, 22, taught music, and Anne Burr, age 15, daughter of Reverend Alexander Burr, was listed as "teacher".

The building boom of 1885 is reflected in the presence of 27 carpenters. Only one other occupation rivalled carpentry in numbers: 22 men, more than five percent of the population, listed their occupation as either saloon keeper or bar man.

By the time this census of 1885 was undertaken, the city had already organized. On December 30, 1884, the local voters decided 86-0 for incorporation. The first town elections were held on January 15, 1885. The First Ward, which encompassed everything south of Fifth Street, elected Doctor J.G. Millsbaugh. The Second Ward (north of Fifth and east of Briggs) voted for James Robertson, who had been a doctor in Garfield, but was now listed as a druggist, while the Third (north of Fifth and west of Briggs) elected the photographer H.A. Ball. The Gazette's editor was the town clerk, J.H. McGullough, a real estate agent, served as Justice of the Peace, and Thomas Simmons, age 26, became the first town marshal.

The 1880's were not years of big government, and the city fathers seem to have taken a limited view of their function. Although they quickly arranged the construction of a city jail at a cost of \$281.25, and established regulations for fire control, they did not act positively to make life in the new town better.

For one thing, Park River had a smell all its own. Someone named Ole kept pigs in the middle of town. Editor Bates raised a stink about the matter; so did the pigs. The pigs evidently won, for Bates reported no victories. In February 1886 the Gazette noted that "certain parties" were using the coulie in the south part of town to dump dead horses and other filth. Later in the year it repeated the complaint about the stench from dead horses and dogs in the coulie north of town. And even in the next year there came a complaint from an unnamed citizen who reported that people along the river "dump dead dogs, cats, horses and everything that has a mind to die and all sorts of dirty trash into the river in order to get rid of it." Some people, the writer complained, are obliged to use that water. It is a wonder that there were no serious outbreaks of typhus or cholera.

The city fathers did try to organize the fire-fighting capacities of the town. By June, 1885, they were having fire reservoirs placed along Briggs, but it wasn't until the town's first major fire that they appear to have gotten going. In mid-November a fire, probably set by vagrants, completely destroyed the huge new Brooks Brothers Elevator, along with 35,000 bushels of stored

wheat. Its 75,000-bushel capacity had made it the largest elevator along the Larimore branch. Only a wind out of the northwest saved the town. On December 7 the town board voted to spend \$3000 on fire equipment, a pumper with 800' of rubber hose and a hook and ladder truck. Wells were to be sunk immediately—at Briggs and Fifth, Briggs and Third, and on Railroad Avenue between Fourth and Fifth. These were to supplement the "old well" at Briggs and Fourth, which was reported at one point to have contained 32' of water.

The major difficulty (besides paying for the expensive equipment and a fire house) was organizing a volunteer fire department. By February 1886 the equipment was in town and in working order, but there was no fireman's organization to man it for another couple of weeks. Then in September there was "another meeting" for the purpose of organizing a fire department. "By July 1887, it was still poorly organized," said the Gazette, "but little good could be accomplished in the case of a fire."

The only other major things the city government accomplished in these early days were to limit wild and reckless driving (a City Ordinance set the speed limit at 8 mph) and to notify property owners, including churches, that sidewalks had to be constructed in the area surrounding the public park, on the north side of Fourth Street between Briggs and Code and on the south side of Fifth Street between Briggs and Code. The sidewalks were to be 64" wide, built of 2" planks with three 2"x6" stringers. They were to be completed within one month, by November 15, 1886. There were no notices of non-compliance noted.

The young city had a chronic problem in obtaining compliance with the law; Briggs Avenue after dark (no mention is made of any street lighting) was not a scene of public tranquility. The pages of the Gazette are studded with two- or three-line reports of fights along the main street. Sometimes the affairs were a bit more serious than drunken fisticuffs. In May, 1886 an article reports a Saturday night stabbing, and the person responsible was quoted as saying, "I stabbed him for fun." In November another stabbing occurred on "lower Briggs."

Park River attracted its share of seamy characters, even among its "respectable businessmen". In October, 1886 R.W. White, a local merchant of two-years' standing, was arrested for an act of arson. He had come to Park River from Brandon, Minnesota, having left his previous business place insured, but unoccupied. White must have had financial problems, for on June 1, he took the train (which reached Larimore three hours after departure if it was on schedule) supposedly on a trip to the Turtle Mountains. He was noted, however, going east, and in disguise. By the strangest of coincidences White's building in Brandon, along with five others, went up in flames the following evening. Several weeks later a box containing an empty oil can was found under the platform at Brandon. The box was stencilled "Ofstedahl's, Park River, Dakota Territory," and it was all the evidence the authorities needed. White was freed on \$3000 bond in October. The last mention of him occurred also in October; he hurriedly auctioned off his property and headed for Canada with his family.

Another shady character reappears in local history shortly after the formation of Park River. Andrew Thompson, who figured prominently in a drunken shooting death at Garfield in 1884, evidently did not return to a quiet life of homesteading following his acquittal. On December 18, 1885 the Gazette reported a "shooting affair" following a barroom fight. Town marshal Thomas Simons attempted to arrest Thompson at his room in the Park Hotel on Briggs Avenue. Thompson resisted

arrest and escaped, even though shot in the thigh. The editor mentioned that Thompson was a universally feared man. He reappeared, roughed up Mr. Lennon, the proprietor of the Park Hotel, and was arrested, but with the help of "his pals" he broke out. Thompson was a persistent, if not particularly shrewd, man, for he turned up again in January, 1886, and was immediately captured by Marshall Simons in Holbrook's Saloon (Holbrook was another unsavory character). This time he was taken to the county jail under \$2000 bond. Editor Bates was of the opinion that "Thompson will probably get from three to five years in the State Pen. on general principles." Yet Thompson must have been a resourceful person. Did he escape again? Did he beat the charges? The May 13, 1887 issue of the Gazette mentioned, without editorial comment, that Andrew Thompson was connected with some kind of insurance fraud in Cavalier County.

Everyday existence in Park River was in some respects more lively in those early days than it is today. The town was not so "wide open" as Garfield had been, yet it still had its share of problems caused by the saloon element as the periodic street fights and the Andrew Thompson affair attest. Saloons may not have been everywhere on Briggs Avenue, but there were enough of them. According to the testimony of Frank Prochaska, long-time editor of the Gazette, the saloons were all on Briggs, and the preferred location was a corner lot. The "outstanding examples" were E.W. Jones' place, The Buckingham Palace, a palatial affair located about where the Union Block now stands, and Tinley's, the first place in town with an "elevator", which was used to supply refreshments to the players upstairs. Prochaska mentioned the Faro and Roulette Room. The saloon keepers did not go broke, despite the \$200 annual license fee. They were the best-dressed men in town with their flashy diamonds, hand-sewn alligator shoes and "railroad haircuts". Their establishments boasted plate glass windows and provided the first sidewalks on Briggs Avenue.

There were a lot of them, S.J. Teel, H.J. Holbrook, C.O. Berg, George Diebel and Oscar Trovatten among others. Long-time town marshall, Mike Kelleher reminisced in 1940 that he used to make the rounds of 14 saloons, each with its own piano player. Liquor license records for the 1880's reveal no more than 10 saloons; still they must have been an important element in the new town. Park River's first city budget (1885) listed the following sources of revenue: Dog licenses, \$28; Liquor licenses (at \$75 per establishment) \$750. The total city income for that year was \$778. Even as late as 1886-1887 the annual saloon license accounted for \$2000 of the \$4608.41 total revenue raised by the city. By way of comparison, town property taxes raised a total of \$926.81 during the same period.

The saloons were lively places. In November 1885, S.J. Teel sponsored a formal Marquess of Queensbury Rules boxing match between one John MacKee and "Unknown" for a purse of \$100. The "bloods of the town" and a few visiting sports were treated to a few introductory matches between locals before the main event, which MacKee won by a knockout in the fifth round.

More often though the "entertainment" was impromptu. In February, 1885, barber George Barnaby was arrested after a drunk at the Buckingham Palace. He had broken chairs, glasses and windows, and had "punched a fellow under the table." A special Saturday night session of the Justice of the Peace Court acquitted him saying that the charges were improperly brought. Barnaby was arrested again on the following Monday.

The owners evidently obeyed City Ordinance No. 2 (Saloons were to be closed from 11 p.m. to 5 a.m., and all day Sunday) only sporadically. There were complaints about them being open on Sundays. Holidays were occasions for good business. On

December 25, 1885, several of the saloons advertised a special Christmas oyster supper.

Usually incidents of saloon-inspired merriment did not merit much attention from the Gazette. At least ten times between 1884 and 1887 mention of street fights or general rowdiness graced the pages of the paper; at least two of the incidents involved Grafton boys (no outcome was ever reported). Things must have settled down a bit by 1887. In early June the Manitoba brought in over a hundred men to begin work on track extension northward to Langdon. They arrived on the weekend, but could not begin work until Tuesday, so they set out to "paint the town red." A few arrests settled them down, but the Gazette commented that "for three days it reminded one of the old times."

Besides the rowdies, the saloons attracted another undesirable element, the ladies of the evening, or "soiled doves" as the editor called them. Barber George Barnaby's second arrest referred to above came on charges of "being in and assisting a house of ill-fame in Kensington." The doves were around again (still?) in August, 1885. In late October "on complaint of the township of Kensington the inmates of 'the white elephant' were arrested" and placed under \$500 bond and sent to "Grafton, the city of iniquity" for trial. The girls were back again the next Tuesday, but for reasons unexplained, they soon hit the road. This incident spurred the city fathers into action. On December 7, 1885 they passed City Ordinance No. 7 which not only forbade gambling (including cards) but also prohibited the keeping of a bawdy house of ill-fame. The penalty for conviction, however, was only \$10.00 and costs. They were back by the next July. On the 30th editor Bates mentioned the departure of the "soiled doves who caused considerable high kicking in the past 2-3 weeks." He had said nothing about them while they were in action, but after the fact stated "Now that the suspender women and beer-jerkers have vanished, the moral atmosphere of Park River should be kept clean." Alas, they were back with the railroad men at the beginning of the next summer.

In the struggle to maintain law and order the saloons were clearly a disruptive, yet powerful group. Those who tried openly to oppose them risked abuse, and even personal assault. An anonymous letter of November 21, 1884 stated "It is a question now as to which party runs this town, the gamblers or the law-abiding citizens." The writer went on to mention the assaults and threats made upon the Reverend Mr. Cooper of the Methodist Church, local organizer of the temperance movement.

Though the good Reverend was a source of opposition to this element, another possible force for positive change, the editor of the Gazette, was not. In reporting the results of the first major town election (May 4, 1885) Bates noted that two major factions were "pulling at the wire-law and order and free thinkers." One would suppose that the "free thinkers" were the saloon keepers. He further noted that the free thinkers elected all their men but one (without identifying them by name). He evaluated the election results: "The ticket elected seems to meet the approval of all and will perhaps give satisfaction." One should note that a year and a half later one of those elected in 1885, city father James Robertson, signed the sureties for George Diebel's liquor license. Another of those elected in 1885 was town marshall, Thomas Simons. A revealing piece of information about this man comes from the 1885 census. A "Tho. Symons, policeman" is listed as a boarder of "O. Trovatten, saloonkeeper."

In the next year's elections there were two groups running, the people's ticket (law and order) and the regular town ticket. From Bates' convoluted rhetoric one gathers that the latter won, and that he was satisfied with the results. Bates was not always forthright in his comments about city affairs. He would mention

something like "business at the justice mill was very brisk last week" or "who took part in that little scrape Monday night?" and leave it to the contemporary reader to figure out what he meant. We can at least figure out by reading between the lines that the local temperance societies (though Reverend Cooper was the major organizer, there were at least two Scandinavian groups) did not have a champion in the local editor.

By the time of the next elections in 1887, Bates was more firm in his opposition to the saloon element: "Park River will enjoy a better reputation at home and abroad" if the voters will elect a marshall who will do his job. The idea that Sunday closing could not be enforced was, in Bates' opinion, "simply bosh." At least temporarily, conditions improved. Although Thomas Simons was reelected, the Sunday after the election, May 15, "was a dry day in town."

In the new town the only thing that got organized as quickly as business was religion. By the end of 1884 at least four groups were operating, Methodist, Presbyterian, Baptist and Episcopal, and the first three were already planning the construction of permanent church buildings.

Until the churches were completed, the congregations met in such places as they could arrange--none of them seem to have been terribly comfortable, though the local church groups did not sink so low as Frank Prochaska indicated when he stated that the first services were held in a saloon. According to the Gazette the first Sunday services were held on 17 August 1884 on the upper floor of Diebel and Langan's as yet unfinished Northwestern Hotel. The Methodists met at 10:00 with Rev. Jonathan Turner, while Rev. Alexander Burr led Presbyterian worship at 2:30. In November the Methodists worshipped in the post office; in January and February they held services in a railroad car at the depot. "Novel, but comfortable" was the Gazette's evaluation of the setting. At least once in 1885 the Baptists had to cancel a service because the meeting place (unspecified) was too cold.

The new Methodist Church was the first completed in Park River. Located at the corner of Fifth and Code, it was first used on March 8, 1885. Its 32'x55' floor space, built at a cost of \$3000, was described as "the most commodious Methodist Church north of Fargo." The congregation of about 100 members was the largest in town. By 1886 the church steeple housed a 1½-ton bronze bell.

The foundation for a 26'x48' Baptist Church at the corner of Fourth and Code was laid about June 10, 1885. Reverend P. Grant had reason to be happy with the work on the building, for Mr. Valseck, the builder, had it nearly complete by the end of July. The building, with its 50-foot spire was dedicated on September 20. Even though the congregation was small (about 25) the church's financial condition was stabilized by the generosity of one Mr. Melville, who deeded 80 acres to the church.

The Presbyterian building committee ordered lumber for their church in August 1885, and work soon began. While awaiting completion of their church, the Presbyterian services were held in Catherwood's Hall, which had been used as a roller skating rink before the fad passed. The congregation had trouble obtaining the services of a full-time minister. The Rev. Mr. Burr, who had been pastor at Kensington, quite quickly left for Bottineau, while Reverend Kerr, who arrived in August 1885, found that the cold weather affected his lungs, and returned to his home state of Pennsylvania in October. Nonetheless, the congregation, which numbered about 50, persisted. The Gazette did not report any formal dedication ceremonies, but the building must have been nearing completion in February, for the editor noted that the stained glass windows, ordered from the Miller Brothers of Minneapolis, were very much admired. A letter in

The Northwest Presbyterian (February 3, 1886) mentioned that the new church in Park River would have a main audience room of 34'x45' with 22' ceilings. There would be a pulpit recess and a 16'x22' lecture room. The seating capacity was reported as 300. But even with the attraction of its new building the congregation had to make do with whatever preachers it could arrange. The Gazette mentioned on May 27, 1887, that there would be no further preaching at the church until further notice. Substitute preachers filled in; on July 17 Roger Allin, the future governor of North Dakota, conducted the service.

The other religious denominations received little mention; they were not organized on a full-time basis. Episcopal services were held on alternate Sundays as early as October 1884, with I. Nelson-Jones as pastor, but nothing further was mentioned about William Code's statement in June, 1886, that a chapel would soon arise. The first mention of Catholic services notes that they were to be held on New Year's Day, 1886, in the school room in Catherwood's old store. For the next few months Father Flanagan of Grafton held services at irregular intervals.

The Norwegian Lutherans' first mentioned services were in the Methodist Church on August 9, 1885. In December Rev. B.F. Strand of Chicago held evening service in the same location. The Norwegian Lutherans were very ecumenical, for the notice stated "All Scandinavians cordially welcome."

The churches served other purposes than Sunday services. There was at least one New Year's program in which the children of the Methodist Church recited their pieces before an appreciative audience of parents. The various ladies aid societies did their part; Presbyterian women occasionally gave oyster suppers at 25 cents a meal. There was also Christian education. In January, 1886, Rev. G.H. Davis "late of England" gave lectures on The Pilgrim's Progress at both the Baptist and Methodist churches. This was an illustrated talk, illustrated by dissolving views thrown on a canvas by means of a powerful stereopticon with an oxy-calcium light. Attendance was reported as high even with the price of 25 cents for adults and 15 cents for children.

Park River was slower to organize its school than its churches. In October 1884 a letter writer pointed out that there was still no school, but by the next month the County Superintendent of Schools was in town making arrangements for a school district. On November 29 the first school board meeting was held, with Charles Honey being elected school director for the town. Even though the assembled citizens approved a bond issue of \$1500 for the construction of a school house, they voiced strong objections to building on the free block provided by the townsite company. The children would have to pass through lines of wagons in front of the elevators and cross several railroad tracks.

By the next April the School District (the seventy eighth formed in the county) had been granted up to \$6000 for a school building. "Spend it all," said editor Bates, "let's have a good schoolhouse." A public school must have been organized in the spring, for the territorial census lists many children as attending school, and a Gazette issue of July, 1885, noted that Mr. Quigley was in charge of the school, where the average attendance was 40 of the 65 enrolled.

The bonds for the school district were purchased by the Park River Bank. Was there some inside collusion on the bond sale? The successful bid on the \$6000 issue was \$6125--the second-highest bid was \$6120. The bonds were for ten years at 8 percent. The site chosen for the current location of the grade school; the district paid \$300 for the lots. For the remainder of the bond money, the district got a two-story building with brick veneer and brick foundations. Building proceeded slowly because initial bids

were too high and had to be let again.

The 1885 term with Mr. Quigley again as teacher opened in Catherwood's store at the foot of Briggs Avenue, because the school building was not ready. But the opening of school had to be twice postponed, first to October 19 because the desks had been delayed in shipment, and then until early November because only four of the fifty desks had come with enough castings to be fully assembled. The new term witnessed the enrollment of 65 pupils, a total which gradually increased to 76. Average attendance was 63. No doubt there were still only 50 desks.

Little more was mentioned about schooling until the closing of the spring term in the late June, 1886. A new, experienced principal, Edwin F. Brightbill of Pennsylvania, was appointed, "owing to the dissatisfaction among the people of our town over the manner in which our school was conducted last session." This was the first mention of any kind of unhappiness with the teacher. The new school building was completed by the end of May, and in the fall session Mr. Brightbill had an assistant, Miss Helen Mayhew, for the primary grades.

Nothing was reported on the opening of the new school building, or on how well education proceeded until July, 1887, when the reports of a school board meeting were published. During the preceding term, it was noted, that the imcompleted school building was too crowded, and many children from outside the city limits had to be excluded. The Board voted to complete the second story and to employ three teachers, with the possibility that a fourth would be added if enrollment was too high for three to handle. The graded system was to go into effect during the 10-month 1887-1888 school term, which began on September 5. The old principal was gone (no reason given) and the new principal, George W. Colborn, presided over Miss Lottie Tillotson, intermediate, and Helen Mayhew, primary.

With all the organization that went on in the new town it could be said that Park River was a "rustler" among Dakota towns. Before you get the wrong idea here, a "rustler" in the 1880's was a go-getter, an organizer. Besides the rustling business activities, the people of Park River had a veritable mania for organizing activities of all sorts, from fraternal organizations to music and sports.

The Park River Odd Fellow Lodge No. 96 was established in April, 1886. Their hall was located over Jones' saloon. The Masonic Lodge (Golden Valley Lodge No. 90) was dedicated on July 23, 1887. A Literary Club thrived briefly in 1885, and within a year the town had a small lending library.

The Park River Silver Cornet Band was a great attraction during the Fourth of July Parade (even at Syttende Mai). In 1885 the original ten-member group had been merely a brass band, but in September of the year new instruments arrived (\$325 worth) and the group was rechristened. Among its officers was David H. Beecher, President of the First National Bank.

There was a tennis club in 1885, and even talk of a cricket club. The Scottish sport of throwing the caber, though, seems to have died out with the passing of the Kensington settlement.

Team sports existed, but did not receive a great deal of attention in the press. In June, 1885, the secretary of "The Park River Athletic Baseball Club" sent an invitation to the Larimore club to play a game on the fourth, but if a game was played it was not reported. About a year later the Gazette reported that the Kensington boys had a football club, "Come on up and play the Park River boys on the Fourth," Bates urged. This game too, if it ever took place, was never reported. Perhaps there was some sort of bias against team sports because the Sabbath was the most convenient time to play. The editor of a short-lived newspaper, The Park River Times, reflected what most have

been strongly held community opinion. He noted that some of the "younger bloods" were playing baseball on Sunday. "Boys, don't do it," he advised, "it reflects on your parents."

For a short time roller skating was a craze in Park River. As if in response to an editorial query of December, 1884, "Why doesn't someone start a skating rink?", a new rink in the Catherwood Hall, managed by one Prof. S.B. Curtis, was overflowing with customers by February, 1885. Bates reported "fully 250 people" at the rink on March 3. Plans to install a hardwood floor extension, to make a total of 4840 square feet of skating space, were completed by April (even before the town had a city jail). For the Masquerade of that month admission was 25 cents, or 35 cents with skate rental; about two hundred attended, fifty or so in costume. The skating fad passed even more quickly than the disco craze (you readers of 2084 should find that allusion perplexing). Soon the rink was open on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. By summer the rink was open only on Saturday and it seems to have gone out of business quietly soon thereafter. In August the Gazette announced that the Presbyterians would meet in the Catherwood Hall.

The first two years were good ones for Park River. The Gazette's New Year's issues of 1885 and 1886 glow with reports of expansion and new building. In January, 1885, Bates listed 88 buildings constructed or under construction, ranging in value (undoubtedly at inflated figures for the most part) from the Pillsbury and Hurlburt Elevator at \$25000 to George Barnaby's Barber Shop at \$125. Dr. Millsbaugh's home, the first house west of the Methodist Church, cost \$700 and must have been commodious for most other residences cost between \$300 and \$500. Even the huge Northwestern Hotel, which housed 54 tenants in June, was listed at only \$10000. The most expensive saloon in town, Teel's, cost \$6,400.

The first issue of the Gazette for 1886 mentions 6 hotels, 4 elevators and a long list of improvements made over the preceding year. When the Park River Times summarized business in May, 1886, it mentioned, among other establishments, 10 general stores, 9 saloons, 6 hotels, 4 livery barns, 5 farm machinery dealers, a photography studio, 3 hardware stores and 3 blacksmiths. Had this list been compiled three months later it might have mentioned A.L. Becvar and Co. a cigar factory, manufacturer of 40 brands of cigars. A truly detailed listing would have mentioned also the latest of gadgets, the telephone: J. O. Moore the butcher had had one installed between his shop and his house in February, 1886.

There was also more of an ethnic mix than one would expect in the Park River business community. In 1884 Bates mentioned an "almond-eyed stranger" in the streets. A scout, no doubt, for in October, 1885, it was announced that "John Chinaman has come to town and will 'washee-washee' in the Park River Laundry, having purchased the plant of that thriving institution." In April one Sing Lee took charge of the Chinese laundry. "He appears to be a capable Chinaman," said Bates, "and we ask for him a fair field." Lee's ads for the Park River Chinese Laundry appeared briefly in 1886 (he promised quick service on laundry from Conway and Inkster) and then disappeared. Whatever happened to him or the laundry remains a mystery, although fire insurance maps of the 1890's indicate that there was still a Chinese laundry in town.

The Gazette played the role of defender and booster of the fledgling community, stressing the good times, ignoring the bad. In the fall of 1885 the area was building up so rapidly that it was impossible to keep track of the activity. With forty percent of the cultivated area of Walsh County tributary to Park River it was little wonder that plans were being made to expand business. In

mid-July Bates reported that fully \$25000 of business was done in Park River in one week, including the sale of 53 binders for a total of almost \$12000. In October, the townsite company, anticipating the direction the new town would grow, surveyed the First Railway Addition.

Yet the Gazette gradually introduced notes of uncertainty in 1886. In April came word of the hard times, scarcity of coins and general depression. Three months later Bates noted that crops in general were very bad that year, and then a hail storm took as much as one third of the remainder. The harvest was far short of 1885. Advertising began to fall off noticeably about harvest time. In the issue of February 25, 1887, two items are worthy of note. First, page 4, which a year earlier had been filled with advertising, was now nearly filled with official notices of foreclosure sales--six columns, compared with one column in January. Second, the Presbyterian ladies displayed a farm community's sense of humor: they invited the readers to attend "The Hard Times Social", suggesting that all those who attend should wear ragged clothes. Perhaps another indicator of the hard times was the fact that even during the pre-harvest months the Gazette did not publish the price of wheat, thereby reversing a weekly tradition that had started with the Garfield Gazette. When Bates finally did publish the price in September, it was down to 53 cents (compared with 82 cents two years earlier). Editor Bates removed to Grafton shortly thereafter, noting on September 17, 1887, that he had sold the good will of the Gazette to A. H. Smith of Inkster.

It was probably not just the general bad times that brought about Bates' change of location, but also his realization that a brief era of rapid expansion was about to come to an end in Park River. As was noted at the beginning of this story, Park River's location was ideal; it had a large marketing area to draw on--to the east almost half-way to Grafton, to the west the county line, to the north at least as far as Osnabrock--as long as the Manitoba terminated at the south bank of the Park River.

But as early as 1885 there was an advertisement, albeit a very speculative one, for "the townsite of the next station north of Park River." In January, 1886, the Fargo Argus suggested that the Manitoba road could start north in the spring. Bates correctly responded that there was no foundation for the statement. Most of the year passed with Park River secure in its tribute-gathering status. But on October 1, the paper noted that two surveyors were out in the field about eight miles north of town, and that General Manager of the Manitoba had been in town for a day, without mentioning the object of his visit. The townspeople could surmise, however; in an article on railroad extension, Bates stated that general opinion in the town held that even if the railroad did go north in the spring, business would not be hurt too much because a large trading territory would remain to the town. One has to wonder, though, about the morale of Park River at the beginning of 1887; times were already hard enough, and many of the citizens could remember what railroad extension had done to rustling communities like Acton, Garfield and Kensington. With ten general stores, five farm implement dealers, and the like, the town was perhaps overbuilt. It was, perhaps, time to relocate. It was probably not coincidence that the Gazette's first issue of 1887, in contrast to the first issues of the previous two years, contained no year-end recapitulation of successes.

There was a hollow sound in a November, 1886, report that "Park River is bound to become the leading town and supply center of this region," especially since Bates used as evidence the 23 teams from Osnabrock that departed from town on a Saturday bearing full loads of winter supplies. After the first of the year we read of some businessmen departing for Great Falls,

Montana, among them George Diebel, hotel owner, and P. D. Briggs, one-time farm manager for Dr. Levingston, now an ex-meat market owner. When Briggs returned from a scouting mission, he was full of enthusiasm for "the new Minneapolis."

The Manitoba was never a railroad to make its plans public; rumors flew in March, 1887. Some said that the railroad would go out that summer, others that it would never go; some argued that the extended line would terminate in Walhalla, others favored Langdon. The fifty carloads of elevator-building material that piled up on the sidings at Park River in late March certainly gave the citizens of the town no cause for great optimism.

By May the surveying crews were in the field, staking a line that ran about one mile to the west of Edinburgh, and were on a course for Langdon. "Out She Goes" read the title of an article in late May. At least a hundred men and fifty teams arrived to begin work on the road bed. They expected to be in Langdon in time to move the fall crop. The work crews quickly expanded to 300 teams, and just as quickly got to work. Railroad iron arrived in late July, and soon thereafter, track-laying began. At least part of the 1887 crop was marketed at elevators further up the line. The farmers from Osnabrock did not return to Park River for their implements and supplies.

Though the town did not die, the end of a brief era of expansion had come. The fate of Park River, like that of Garfield, lay in the hands of Manitoba.



Afterward:

I'd like to make a final observation. Much of the information for this history came from the pages of the Park River Gazette, supplemented by a few articles from the Press and the Record. As you have read, they preserved a lot of general information about our town. I wasn't able even to begin to pull all of it into this story. There wasn't space for county politics, or the feats of Joe Catherwood, or the formation of the Walsh County Farmers' Alliance. I couldn't even mention that as late as November, 1886, Park River received part of its Grafton mail by stagecoach.

But almost all of this information was general; very little personal detail about the 1880's has survived. I don't know about you, but I'd like to know where the men went for coffee in the morning, and how their wives coped with the problems of shopping. I'd like to know other things too: Who roughed up Rev. Cooper and how did he get away with it? What did young Anne Burr teach at the age of 15 and why? Did Simon Teel, the saloon keeper, bribe city officials? What did the interior of the Park River Bank look like and what kind of people worked there?

This list of questions could go on indefinitely, but no matter how many questions we ask, we'll never have the answers. These human details about life in Park River before the turn of the century are gone, dead, beyond any hope of resurrection. We'd like to have the answers, but no one ever bothered to write them down. I suppose that the people of the time thought their reminiscences would be too commonplace, too humdrum, ever to be of interest to anybody.

But you, the reader, are interested, and I hope you feel the loss of our past as keenly as I do. No one now cares to write down what goes on at the personal level in Park River; "everybody knows" things like where the menfolk go for coffee in the morning. But try to remember what the Depression years were like in Walsh County, or how you reacted when you first heard the news of Pearl Harbor. Aha! Many of you can't; you're too young. There is still living memory of those years--but it too will fade away, and

soon it will be just as dead as the memory of Simon Teel. It won't be long now that no one alive will know how bitterly tough the times were in the 30's, or who the bootleggers were, or what the reaction was when the boys came back from the war. And not too long afterward, people will begin to care about knowing "that stuff."

I ask you to consider two things: you owe a lot to your predecessors in this town, they made Park River a pretty good place to live in all things considered; you also owe something to your descendants a century down the line. It doesn't make any difference who you are; you've got a story to tell. The readers of the bi-centennial edition of Park River History will welcome it.

Dave G. Larson,
Dept. of History
Hendrix College
Conway, Arkansas



Trivia

1884: Park River voted for the first time on City officials.

1895: First ad for 'Cream of Wheat,' a new cereal developed here by the North Dakota Milling Company.

1896: Park River voted 93 to 7 against incorporation. June 2, the trustees adopted a resolution in regard to the change, which was filed for record in the County Auditor's Office on June 5, 1896, which resolution transformed the Village of Park River into a corporation known as the "City of Park River."

1900: Council passed resolution by George McEvan and J.J. Dougherty granting privileges to construct electric light plant. The people of Park River are enthused over the prospect of electric light plant.

1900: The first High School football game in North Dakota took place with Grafton playing at Park River- Grafton won.

J. A. DUNN, PRES. AND MGR.

J. D. ROBERTSON, SEC'Y AND TREAS.

PARK RIVER MILLING COMPANY

MANUFACTURERS OF HIGHEST GRADES
STRONG DAKOTA FLOUR

CAR NO.

TERMS

YOUR PURCHASE

PARK RIVER, N. D.

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Park River

An Instance of Rapid Development

The country surrounding it—its advantages and business facilities—the grain trade—points about merchants—churches and schools

(special Correspondent of the Tribune)

Park River, Dak., March 7—It would not be an easy matter to find in Northern Dakota a town with a better natural situation, or one that had a finer tributary country, than Park River. As it is one of the youngest, so it is one of the most active on the upper branch of the Manitoba line. The citizens to a man seem to have caught the best public spirit, and are swayed by it in the interest of their fair young city. Long before the traveller arrives at the place and surrenders himself to the watchful care of Landlord Milton of the Northwestern Hotel, he hears the praises of Park River sung by those who have been there before and are anxious to “make a town” where there is sure to be trade awaiting them. Reference is made, of course, to that enterprising class of the travelling public known to the world as “commercial drummers.” It is usually quite safe to take without hesitancy the commercial man’s estimate of a town, for invariably his opinion, being based upon correct information concerning one or more branches of trade, is worth something. Park River, then, is one of those growing cities that are on the mouth of the commercial traveller. The city is surrounded by what are considered the best wheat lands, lying back some thirty miles from the Red River, and producing the highest grade of wheat known to the world. The country immediately tributary comprises some of the richest portions of the territory. It extends to the Manitoba railway 18 miles to the east, westward to the Turtle mountains, south to Larimore and northward to the boundary line of the United States. Within this immense section of country there are only four small railroad towns, and these are located south of Park River, between this point and Larimore. For more than 20 miles in all directions where Park River has no competition whatever—north and west—the country is thickly settled, and for long distances beyond this limit the productive lands are being brought under the plow by men who constitute the vanguard of progress. Throughout this entire region the government has established postoffices, and these are distributing points for the merchants of Park River. While the Manitoba pours streams of merchandise into the young city, and the local merchants are as actively engaged in distributing it to the consumer in the country, the farmers are contributing to the life and bustle of the place by pouring streams of wheat into the four large elevators that have been made necessary by rapid settlement and the big crops.

It is rather a remarkable fact, even in the development of Dakota, that this bright business community stands upon land that 28 months ago was covered with wheat. The hotel in which this letter is written stood in the middle of the field, and the golden grain was cut expressly to make way for the carpenters and builders. This was also true of many other buildings, the city had its rise simultaneously with the harvesting of a crop from the very ground on which it now stands. And it stands as a monument

to the courage and indomitable energy of the men who now occupy the foremost rank in the business and social circles of Walsh County. That the site was well chosen and the conditions such as to warrant the ambition of the city’s founders was demonstrated by the fact that from the wheat crop of the tributary country in 1886, Park River shipped over 1,000,000 bushels before the last day of December. People are frequently heard to talk of the wild schemes of Dakotian town-builders and the futile expenditure of money to deem a townsite. As a rule, however, these schemes are well digested, and your Dakotian shows great foresight while his critics have no sight at all. While the city is only in the third year of its existence, it contains every material sign that marks the growth and prosperity of old-established communities throughout the country. Its banks are constructed of brick; it has brick stores and residences that would be valuable improvements almost anywhere; its lumber yards are well stocked and require frequent replenishing; its grain houses are capacious and permanent; its churches and schools are tasteful specimens of architecture well cared for, and its people find plenty to do and are never so happy as when doing something connected with their personal affairs or the general good of the community. Illustrative of the singular good fortune that has attended those who have located here, your correspondent may quote one of the principal town site proprietors and a firm and faithful friend of this section of the great territory, George L. La Veyea. That gentleman said, “It is a gratifying fact to me and others interested in the continued growth of Park River, that, with two single exceptions, every man who has bought property of me has stayed right here and prospered.” This statement is borne out by the business men themselves, and the truth of it is established in the mind of every one, after some acquaintance with the rapid of individual business ventures. There are in the list of business men the names of those who made their first real success in life at Park River; they came with limited means, looked over the ground, satisfied themselves as far as they could, and launched their frail barks not altogether without misgiving. But while they have been expecting results for their efforts and investments, the results have come; hoping in the course of a decade to achieve commercial success, they have reaped the reward of enterprise in two brief years. And so as a community, while have looked to and worked in large measure for the future, the energy they have expended, coupled with the natural advantages of their town, has brought it to the front. In the front it will remain, because it has the guiding hand of the intelligent body of men who projected it, and who stand ready to advance its interests with every favorable opportunity.

Park River now has a population of nearly 1,000, upon the basis of 232 votes posted at the election last fall. Her schools are graded from the primary department to the high school, and the buildings are creditable not only to the town but to the territory of which the town is the latest surprise. Four of the principal religious denominations have erected beautiful churches and the societies that contribute to social enjoyment and the cause of benevolence have obtained a foothold. More than this cannot be

said of any place of a thousand people in the Northwest. In the matter of newspapers Park River is well favored, the Gazette, a nine-column folio, being intelligently conducted by W.D. Bates.

TWO SOLID BANKS

The banks of Park River are the First National and the Bank of Park River. The First National was opened as such January 25, 1885, but the business was started originally in October, 1884. The president is David H. Beecher; vice-president is Franklin Edgerton, and cashier Sidney Clarke. Its authorized capital is \$500,000. The bank owns the building occupied, which is a 2 story brick, with a ground site of 25x40 feet. All the officers of the bank are from the Empire state. The First National pays interest on time deposits, deals in school and municipal bonds, and negotiates first mortgage loans. The Bank of Park River, was opened for business Feb. 1, 1886 with Henry Keller president, and C.D. Lord, cashier. Both are gentlemen of large financial responsibility; Mr. Keller being president of the First National Bank of Sauk Centre, Minnesota, and president of the Keller Manufacturing Company of that city, while Mr. Lord had further advantage of experience in the banking business, having held important positions for six years at Sauk Centre. The bank has its own brick building, 25x60 feet, two stories high, with every convenience and safeguard that experience has suggested or skill devised.

WHEAT STORAGE CAPACITY

Park River has a combined capacity for wheat storage of 250,000 bushels. These houses handled of the crop of 1885 no less than 900,000 and from the last crop will receive about 1,200,000 bushels. These figures show that Park River has been lifted into the rank of a first-class primary wheat market in two years. The houses are the Minneapolis and Northern with a storage capacity of 90,000 bushels, under the management of C.A. Eaton; Brooks Bros. capacity 85,000 bushels, manager, A. McKinney; Cargill Bros., capacity, 50,000 bushels and the Red River Valley, capacity, 35,000 bushels, manager L.A. Whitmore. The practical suggestion may be made in this connection that a well equipped flour mill would here find a good market for its products, and become a paying investment for the owners. There is no mill for a distance of many miles in any direction and the public spirit and business judgment of the citizens might be counted on to render valuable assistance to such an enterprise.

PARK RIVER ITEMS

One of the first residents, and the most instrumental in the growth of the place, is G. LaVeyea, who is agent for the townsite property. He has been here for two and a half years, has sold 225 lots, in which time lots has (sic) risen in price from \$250 to \$400 and \$1,000. He is also engaged in collections for a machinery firm, and has a large business in collections, loans of farm and chattel mortgages for Eastern parties. He is doing a flourishing business.

The Northwestern Hotel is one of the comfortable institutions of the town. It is 50x90 feet in dimensions, has 30 rooms, fine office, sample rooms, saloon well conducted by another party, the entire house having been recently renovated and decorated in fine taste. It is kept by J.E. Milton and Son, who take pleasure in keeping the house up in the best style and thus they have the best hotel in the town.

Code and Paulson deal in machinery, farm implements, Canton plows, the New Model thresher, fine buggies and wagons.

They do an immense business. O.M. Paulson was among the first on the ground. John Code is now proprietor of the business.

E.W. Jones was one of the earliest settlers. He is a large property holder, owning the Odd Fellows hall, the "Hotel Bonnie", a fine residence, 620 acres of farm land near town, 30 acres of timber, and is doing now a fine business in contracting and building. He built the county buildings, which stand proof of his honest work and reasonable terms.

Dr. James Robertson opened the first drug store in 1884. He has a large practice in medicines and does a fine drug business.

C.L. Finneseth is in the hardware trade; has been in the territory six years, resident of this town for two years; he a (sic) a large warerom and does a good trade.

L.E. Ayers, attorney at law, came from Newark, N.J. He is a graduate of Columbia law school, and has a satisfactory practice.

H.W. Phelps was one of the pioneers, and is an attorney of good standing, being attorney for the First National Bank. He is a graduate of Madison law department, Wisconsin University. He practices in all the courts, and has a good business in loans collection, etc.

C. Hendrickson and Co. started in the hardware business in 1884. They do a business of about \$30,000; deal also in farm implements, wagons, buggies, sleighs and cutters.

McEwan and Dougherty handle the McCormick machinery, Moline plows, Rushford wagons, fanning mills, hay rakes and like farm implements.

Thomas Catherwood has been a resident of the territory for six years, and is engaged in general merchandise. He carries a fine stock of goods and does a business of \$30,000. He came from Washington Territory.

S. Cairncross and Co. deal in dry goods, boots and shoes, fine goods, groceries and crockery. They do a business in the grand sum of \$90,000. Mr. H.R. Aslakson came from Winona, Minn.

J. Ofstedahl deals in dry goods, groceries and crockery, employs four clerks and does a business of \$40,000. Mr. Ofstedahl owns two fine farms near town.

Dr. J.G. Millsbaugh is one of the most public spirited men of the town. He was the first president of the village organization and has been a member of the board of trustees since its organization. He is a graduate of Ann Arbor and of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of New York city. He is a practitioner of ten years experience, and is a valuable resident of Park River.

Haussamen and Hamilton came from Winona, Minn., and have built up a prosperous drug and stationery trade. They doubtless do the principal business in this line.

H.A. Libby, who is now serving his third term as city attorney, was among the first residents. In addition to his law business he is engaged extensively in the collection and insurance business.

J.P. Birder is a dealer in general merchandise. He began business in 1884, owns a large store building, two stores, carries a stock of \$10,000 and does a royal business to amount of \$70,000. Mr. Birder was honored as the first county treasurer.

A. Timely is proprietor of the Chicago Saloon, which carries a stock of \$2,000 in the best wines, beers, and liquors of all kinds, and cigars of the best make. He is able to furnish the best custom. He has a wholesale license for the sale of first class beers.

Flekke and Nelson do a business of general merchandise, carry a stock of \$10,000 and do a business of \$60,000. The business was established in 1884. Mr. Nelson is a resident of Park River, and Mr. Flekke of Grafton.



Historic Park River Fires Recalled...

**Business Section Devastated After two Fires in 1901
Residents Were Undaunted and Rebuilding Program
Was Carried Out With Enthusiastic Success**

★ ★ ★
By O. F. Brett, Park River, N. D.

The city of Park River will be 75 years of age in August 1959 and at present there is some discussion locally as to whether there should be a 75th anniversary celebration.

During that long period, the year 1901 was, by far, the most eventful in the life of the city, for that was the year of the great fire and the rebuilding. To recall the events of that notable year may be of some interest to people of this community and so I will attempt to review some of the more important ones.

Most of the files of the several newspapers published in the early years of Park River have been destroyed by two fires, so the remaining source of information is from scattered records found in some of the older homes of the community and from the memory of citizens who have lived here for many years. As bits of written information from here and there, filled in from memory cannot be 100 per cent correct in every detail, it, nevertheless, will serve the purpose until corrected, to present a picture of the events of that year.

A brand new century, untouched by human hands began on the first of January 1901 and on that day

found Park River a thriving, growing prosperous city. The census figures of 1900 set the population at 1087, but most of the records found estimate the population at between 1400 and 1500. Be that as it may, the residents were so busy and hustling about to prosper that the official count of 1087 had all the appearances of being too low.

In 1901 neither the Edmore branch of the Great Northern nor the Soo railroads had been built. For that reason the Park River trade territory had unlimited horizons to the west. In the fall after farm work was halted by frost hundreds of loads of grain came to town nearly every day. At that time there were five elevators and a flour mill buying grain and several track buyers who shoveled the grain by hand from wagon to boxcar, still each place would have a string of wagons lined up waiting their turn to unload. On many occasions farmers had to remain in town over night and unload the next morning. Mar-

ket prices paid that year were wheat 68½c; flax 82c and barley 29c to 33c.

The business places in town included four general stores, three clothing stores, five groceries, two meat markets, three confectionaries, one bakery, three drug stores, two hardware stores, three lumber yards, four hotels, seven or eight restaurants, two banks, a furniture store and mortuary, two newspapers, two implement shops, three large barns and feed stables and three barns where farmers could leave their teams while in town, and two blacksmith shops.

The official directory of the newspaper listed the following: five churches, a grade school with W. E. Johnson superintendent, and a staff of teachers, four doctors (Wm. E. A. Brustad, Halldorson and G. Douglas) 2 dentists, J. M. Schuman and W. M. Hubler, four attorneys, H. A. Libby, John H. Owen, H. Smith-Peterson and G. W. Totten, two veterinarians, J. G. Johnson and Robert Cliff.

There was a bucket shop where speculators could buy and sell grain futures. It was operated by A. C. Mattison. There were also many other tradesmen and small business places such as harness shops and repair shops. Scott Brown operated a large inclosed ice skating rink and Sam Holland had a factory where he later built automobiles.

The unusual events of 1901 began on the night of January 20th when fire destroyed the Palace Drug store and E. B. Woodard's tobacco parlor. The drug store occupied the corner where the Midway Lunch is now located and Woodard's is now occupied by the Hart's store. The Palace Drug had only recently been purchased by the Dunn Drug Co., of Grafton from W. J. Graham and the manager was J. D. Robertson. The Woodard family lived at the rear of their building where the fire (cause unknown) was discovered after midnight.

The night was clear and cold, 20 below zero, with only a slight breeze from the north. T. T. Thompson's grocery and dry goods store was located in the building to the

north and J. B. Taintor's meat market was next in line. Taintor had a well on his lot and a new gadget called a gasoline engine equipped with a water pump and some hose that he used in the butcher business for cleaning and cooling purposes. With this equipment he kept the exposed wall of the Thompson building wet and thus confined the fire to the two buildings. However, the intense heat from the fire broke the plate glass windows in the bank and in C. E. Nelson's department store across the street to the south.

A sad incident in connection with the fire had to do with one of Woodard's daughters, a very beautiful and talented young lady, who suffered a nervous breakdown and had to be hospitalized for several months before she recovered.

The Dunn Drug Co., moved to the building now occupied by Larson's cafe, ordered new stocks and fixtures and opened for business a few weeks later.

The Big Fire on Feb. 28

The city continued on its busy way without further incident of note until the evening of the great holocaust, February 28. The morning of February 28, 1901, dawned clear and bright, with a brisk wind out of the west. As the day advanced, the wind increased in velocity until it reached 50 to 60 miles per hour. The temperature rose rapidly and the Grand Forks weather station recorded a high of 59 degrees, the warmest February day ever recorded at that station until it was surpassed in February of this year. There wasn't much snow on the ground, but what there was melted rapidly, spilling the sleigh roads and leaving great puddles of water and slush all about. Toward evening the wind shifted to the west, northwest, but continued at about the same velocity.

About 6:45 p.m., the fire alarm was sounded from a bell on the city hall. Fire had been discovered in the back room of the hardware store of Lofthus, Bannerman & Wood on the site now occupied by Miller & Sharpe Hardware. The cause was never determined but to quote a line from the memories of F. J. Chaska, then editor of the Park River News: "The town was in a

midst of a boom. The fire originated in the back room of a hardware store and was privately estimated to be of incendiary origin. The store had not been doing well. There had been some dissension among the three owners and one member decided the best way out was to divide the insurance. Whatever the truth may have been, it was, nevertheless, a fortunate fire, for all who had suffered losses recovered them speedily after their places were rebuilt." End quote.

The fire fighting equipment at that time consisted of a hand pump and two hose carts with a few hundred feet of hose. The water supply was from three wells or cisterns that had been dug at supposedly strategic places near main street. The water supply, however, was entirely inadequate for control of the fire that was in the making. In a few minutes the entire hardware store was in flames. All the buildings on the street, except two, were of shabby frame construction with two foot spaces between the buildings and each two-story structure had an outside stairway to the second floor, which made conditions very favorable to the spreading of a fire on a windy night. When the firemen saw it was useless to waste more water on the hardware store building, they concentrated on trying to save the Walstrom department store that was on the corner now the north half of the Variety store. The lot between was vacant.

Soon great swirls of flame filled the vacant lot and the department store was burning. The flames rapidly spread to the buildings on the south. The water supply was already running low so the remaining supply was saved in the hope of keeping the fire from spreading to the east side of the street. The windows there were beginning to break from the heat, when a large piece of burning debris blew across and lodged in an awning. Now both sides of the street were on fire. When farmers began arriving in town to watch the fire their teams and sleighs were immediately pressed into service to salvage merchandise from the stores in the path of the raging fire. All merchandise saved was hauled to the fair grounds, now the campus of the Walsh County School, and was stored in the exhibit hall and barns there.

The most composed persons in the town that night were Goldstein and Arnovich, who had recently purchased the clothing store from Maurice Koppelman. The store occupied the site which is now the Fashion Shop. When the men were informed that their place was in danger they came down, went inside and got their account books, came out, locked the door, went home and went to bed. It was reported later that they had enjoyed a good night's

sleep. As soon as the fire was out of control, W. S. Webber, railroad station agent, wired Larimore that railroad property was in danger of burning. An engine and tank car of water were immediately dispatched and probably made a record run from Larimore to Park River for it arrived in an unbelievably short time. As it came through Conway, a number of men tried to flag it down in the hope of getting a ride up to see the fire. They were disappointed

because the engine did not slow down and they had to scatter off the tracks in a hurry to keep from being run over. The engine soon had the railroad cars moved to safety and stood by to save the depot if it caught fire. There were some Park Riverites who thought we rated a better depot than the one we had and were secretly hoping it would burn down. It caught fire several times but the engine would pull in on the track on the west side and cover the place with steam and water. The depot did not burn.

Back on main street, in a few hours the following businesses were destroyed: On the north corner, the F. Walstrom & Co., general store, going south from there, Loftus, Bannerman & Booth's Hardware, Hall & Brandt's Men's Furnishings, Henry Anderson Drug Store, Thorson Bros., Grocery & Confections, the Dunn Drug Co., Joe Irwin's Confectionery, J. B. Taintor's Meat Market and T. T. Thompson's grocery and dry goods. The two buildings to the south had burned in January.

On the east side of the street, the John Aamoth building was of brick construction and occupied by A. Finneseth Co., general store, and it did not burn. The bakery is now in that building. To the south, a barber shop operated by Charles Soll burned. The Bank of Park River was a brick structure and was saved. Next, the building occupied by Mrs. Wyard's knick knock shop on the first floor and the plant of the Park River Gazette Witness, edited by J. Morley Wyard, on the second floor, together with all the files of early Park River newspapers, was destroyed.

Going south, George McLeod's Bakery & Confection, Strannehan & Hamre Drug Store, W. F. Follis tailor shop, a shoe repair or harness shop, O. E. Hasle Hardware, Goldstein & Arnovich Clothing & Dry Goods, Huseth's Jewelry Store and White & Warner's Implement shop, agents for Deering farm equipment, were all burned. And, along with them went all the apartments and professional offices on the second floors of the various buildings. There were no casualties or serious injuries from all this conflagration.

Going east toward the depot, the office and coal sheds of the Stoltz Lumber Co., Bertram F. B. Green,

manager, located on the site now occupied by T. F. Meagher & Son, was burned. The large livery and feed barn of E. R. Swarthout, where the county shed is now, was destroyed. On the south side of that street, the Arlington Hotel, owned by Joseph Thompson, where Skjerven's garage is now, was badly damaged, but did not burn. It was razed the next summer. Part of it was moved to the south edge of town and converted to a dwelling. Another part was moved to the north part of town, also for a home.

During the height of the big fire, a burning shingle was blown and lodged in the cupola of the P. V. elevator, where the Farmer's Elevator is now located. Some boys tried to extinguish the fire by throwing snowballs at the burning spot but were unsuccessful and the structure was soon in flames. Partly burned shingles from the elevator were found later seven miles east of town. By morning, the fire was burned out and desolation reigned supreme.

To be Continued

Park River Rebuilds After Big Fires Of 1901 And a Business Boom Started

By O. F. BRETT
Park River, N. D.

Concluded from Last Week

In the days following there was much discussion about the future. Some were of the opinion that the town was through and would never be rebuilt. Others thought the west side of the main street would be rebuilt, but the east side would not. Still others were of the opinion that the town would rise from the ashes and be better than before. Events that followed proved that this latter group was right.

The City Council followed this line of thinking and at their first meeting after the fire an ordinance was passed that all buildings to be put up in the town in the burned-out area had to be of brick construction. The city officials at that time were H. A. Libby, mayor; George F. Honey, auditor; J. Amoth, O. O'Rielly, John Wyllie, George Stoskoff, Art Wilson and I. Davis, Councilmen. Charles Service was chief of police.

The spring, summer and fall of 1901 proved to be the busiest in the

history of the city. Within a few weeks most of the business places had erected temporary quarters along the alleys on each side of the street and were doing a good business by advertising fire damaged merchandise. As soon as the building season arrived the debris was cleaned up. Basements were being dug, farmers were hauling rock to town for the masonry basements and foundations which were used at that time. Concrete was not in general use. Masons from as far away as Minneapolis and St. Paul arrived in town and construction was begun.

During 1901 the following buildings were erected: J. P. Birder put up the building on the corner, now the Variety store, N. J. Marifjeren and I. P. Overbye formed a partnership and went into the hardware business in the building now occupied by Malde & Sharpe. When that building was finished, Hall & Brandt, clothiers, teamed up with Druggist Henry Anderson and built the Security building. The lot occupied by Melvin's Store for Men was vacant for several years. The present building was built later, in about 1906, by Charley Plane of Milton to house newly organized Farmers Security Bank.

Thorson Brothers, who had occupied the site, dissolved partnership and Halvor Thorson left town. Ole J. Thorson continued in business for several years in the temporary quarters built after the fire, west of the present site of Hultstrand's photograph studio. He then purchased the Joe Irwin building and moved back to main street. The Dunn Drug Company erected the building which now houses Larson's cafe. Joe Irwin and J. P. Birder each built one-half of the Union Block, in which the Johnson Stores Inc., is now doing business. T. T. Thompson and E. B. Woodward built the stores bearing their names, now occupied by the Harris Pool hall and the Hartz Grocery store. The corner where the Midget lunch is now was vacant for many years until the present building was erected in 1920 by C. F. Harris, who opened the first service station in Park River at that place. Later the building was used as an office by the Mu-

tual Oil Co., before it became a lunchroom.

On the east side of the street Ed Code and J. B. Taintor erected the building where the Park River clinic and the postoffice now are located. Code operated a confectionery and the new telephone franchise was granted to him. The telephone exchange was in operation in rooms on the second floor of the Code building. Taintor, who had a meat market on the west side of town, moved it to the new building. Husetz put up the present Fashion Shop building and there is where his jewelry store was located. O. E. Hasle built the O. P. Olson Hardware Store and was in the hardware business himself until he sold out to

Mr. Olson.

The lot next to that remained vacant until Will McEachern and Fred Walstrom erected the theatre about 1916. Tom Follis and Stranahan and John Hamre built the places now occupied by Ebbesen's, the Forte Jewels and Staven's Bar. George McLeod and, I believe, W. S. Weber built the buildings where Ella's Beauty Shoppe and Kelly's barber shop are located.

J. Morley Wyard, editor of the Gazette Witness, sold his subscription list to F. J. Prochaska of the News, who combined the two newspapers into the Park River Gazette News and built a new print shop (now the VFW building) to house his publishing business. The present site of the Walsh County Press was vacant until Mr. and Mrs. Harry

O'Brien built the modern building in 1939. Stolze Lumber Company rebuilt their office on the site of the Arlington Hotel, which had been razed. E. R. Swarthout built one of the most elaborate livery stables in the state on the site now occupied by the county shed and the P. V. elevator was rebuilt as soon as the site of their building could be cleared.

While the memory of the devastating fire was still fresh in their minds, the City Council decided that a more modern and better supply of water should be available to combat any future fire and made plans

to install a pressure water system for the city. And, because some type

water, they decided to put in an of power was needed to pump electric lighting system also. A special election was called for June 23, 1901, to approve or reject a bond issue for \$19,800 to finance these utilities. The vote was 176 in favor to 37 against the project and on August 12 a contract was awarded to a St. Paul firm for their construction. Work began almost at once. Digging in the streets and placing electric line poles continued most of the following winter. Then, to have a real modern city, the Council granted Ed Code a 15-year franchise to erect and operate a

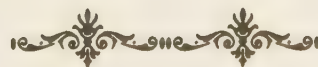
telephone system in the city. Also in the November election, the City voted 89 to 2 in favor of establishing a public library to be located in the City hall.

Along with progress came dissension on the local scene and, two years later the entire City Council was replaced. John Willey was named mayor, O. E. Lofthus, auditor, W. T. Follis, treasurer; E. Smith-Peterson, attorney. Aldermen were: H. B. Newcomb and W. P. Buckingham, first ward; W. J. Metz and John Fitzpatrick, second ward; Karl J. Farup and C. E. Nelson, third ward.

Turning from the local community to the National scene, President William McKinley was assassinated on September 14, 1901, and Teddy Roosevelt became president. He began a campaign immediately to conserve the country's remaining natural resources from the looting by big monopolies. He also made plans for building the Panama canal.

When the 1902 calendars were being hung on the wall, Park River was a modern city in every respect. It boasted of the finest new business section of any city in the state, with tap water, electricity, telephone service and a public library. And, to put the frosting on the cake, "business was booming."

The End



The man whose religion cost him nothing pays for all he gets.

Send One Dollar to the treasurer and become a member of the League.



Geo. F. Honey, Pres., Park River
Hon. K. N. Bjorndahl, V. Pres., Edinburg
Rev. S. S. Westby, Sec., Edinburg
Rev. P. A. Nykreim, Treas., Park River
Executive Committee: Hon. K. N. Bjorndahl, Mr. Geo. F. Honey, Rev. S. S. Westby, Rev. P. A. Nykreim, Mr. John J. Marifjer, Mr. C. E. Reinertson, Rev. J. T. Langemo.



Prohibition States: Alabama, Georgia, Kansas, Maine, Mississippi, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Tennessee.

The son of a moderate drinker begins life at a disadvantage.



Correct errors with your ballot.



Don't vote for any man for any office in Walsh county who uses intoxicating liquors as a beverage. He is not at his best.



Inform the League of any violation of law in your community.



Ladies and Gentlemen eligible to membership. Join the League.

The Walsh County Law Enforcement League

RALLY

At Park River, North Dakota
Thursday, August 18th
1910

PROGRAM

2:00 P. M.

Music

Park River Band

Vocal Solo

Miss Esther Torgimson

Reading

Miss Dena Reinertson

Vocal Duet

Mrs. H. A. Libby and Miss Ethel Cameron

Address

Mrs. Hannah Patten

Vocal Solo

Rev. H. B. Torgimson

Address

Gov. John Burke

Music

Park River Band

Everybody is cordially invited to attend

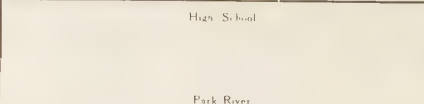


Park River, Main Street

City Park Drinking Fountain erected by the W. C. T. U.



High School



Park River



Reflections

EXCERPTS FROM PARK RIVER'S DIARY-August 22, 1884 to December, 1883. The dates shown are the dates of the publication, not necessarily the date of the event.

Sources of Information:

- .Garfield Gazette - August 14, 1884.
- .The Park River Gazette - August 22, 1884 to September 16, 1887.
- .Park River News - 1898, 1899.
- .Park River Gazette-News - May 15, 1903 to May 2, 1919.
- .Park River Herald - August 20, 1914 to August 15, 1919
- .Walsh County Farmers Press - May 9, 1919 to December 30, 1926.
- .Walsh County Press - January 1, 1927 to December, 1983.

From 1888 to 1903 there were just a few single issues to check for information.

There were no papers to check for 1921; a few single issues for 1924; no papers for 1937 (they were burned in the fire at The Press in 1939); 1949; 1951; 1955; and 1974.

In checking the businesses of Park River we noticed there are four buildings housing the same type of business that was originally started in them since the start of Park River: Loftsgard's Hardware at 405 Briggs Avenue South; Park River Rexall Drug, 409 Briggs Avenue South; First Bank of Park River, 503 Briggs Avenue South; and Robertson Building Center, 105 Fourth Street East.

The Windsor Hotel (now demolished) through all its history was located at 315-17-19 Briggs Avenue South. The Park River Hotel, also once known as the Bellerica Hotel and UTC Hotel, was located at 310-12 Briggs Avenue South. That building has also been demolished.

The following information is by no means a complete history. The items were selected because they were interesting to us as we scanned the papers. We hope you will enjoy reading the diary as much as we did in the preparation.

Enjoy.....

-Harold and Edith Harris

GARFIELD GAZETTE, Garfield, Walsh County, Dakota Territory - August 14, 1884:

"With this issue we close the career of The Garfield Gazette as we expect to move to the new town of Kensington, the latter part of this week our building and material will be transferred to the new town. And hereafter the paper will be known as THE KENSINGTON GAZETTE. We hope all our exchanges will please make the change as soon as possible on their list from Garfield to Kensington.

"Oscar Trovatten has bought a lot in the new town and will start a saloon there as soon as he can get his building up and in readiness."

"The town looks somewhat deserted now and in a few weeks nothing will be left to show the traveler where the town of Garfield once stood."

"The sound of the hammer is constantly heard now, as those parties who are not going to move their building whole but will tear them down and rebuild to a better advantage. W.S. Post

moved the front part of his residence to the new town on Wednesday--also his blacksmith shop. On Thursday morning he removed the balance of his residence and his household goods."

"I.R. Page had his residence moved into Kensington next to the drug store in Kensington last Saturday. On Monday he moved his family to their new home. Thus vacating the Garfield House entirely.

"It is understood that Gilbert P. Slette will take the postoffice and move it to his house. This will be probably as near the center of the settlement in this township as can be had. Gilbert will make a good postmaster."

"On last Friday, Dr. Robertson moved his drug store and residence to the new town of Kensington. The first start was not a success, there was a breakdown, but during the afternoon he made another trial with additional motive power, having started with the building raised up on timbers and then supported by four wagons, but they at last put on two more teams after which the building moved away like clock work. He got there the same day he started from here."

PARK RIVER GAZETTE, Park River, Walsh County, Dakota Territory - August 22, 1884:

"The early part of last week William Davis had a surveyor come out from Grafton and survey and plat sixty lots on the southwest quarter of his claim lying just north of the railroad's townsite. The lots take in that portion of his farm which is badly cut up by the coulee, and railroad track, engine house, switches, etc. but still Mr. Davis has some very elegant lots not touched by either railroad or coulee. Mr. Davis has seen fit to change the name of his town from Riverside to Kensington, thus causing the townsite company to change the name of their town to Park River. P.D. Briggs, the bonanza farmer of this neighborhood has had three binders cutting grain all around us this week and 'still there is more to follow'."

MARKET REPORT.

PARK RIVER, JAN. 2, 1883.

WHEAT

No. 1 Hard.....	\$	56
No. 1.....		51
No. 2 Hard.....		48
No. 2.....		43
No. 3.....		10

FARMER'S PRODUCE

Hay.....	\$6 00	8 00
Wood per cord (dry).....		8 00
Wood per cord (green).....		4 00

HIDES

Green Hides.....	\$	3 34
Calfskins.....		7
Dry Hides.....	9	10
Sheepskins (apiece).....		40

The Homeliest Man in Park River.

As well as the handsomest one, can buy one of those cheap farms, if he has only got the dust. Step in, put up the collateral and be made happy.

NE 1-4 Sec 1 R 156 T 57 \$900 00

NE 1-4 Sec 3 R 154 T 55 \$850 00

SE 1-4 Sec 21 R 156 T 57 \$500 00

NE 1-4 Sec 9 R 166 T 55 \$1800 00

240 acres two 1-2 miles from this City \$1 500.

NE 1-4 Sec 34 R 157 T 57 \$1 050.

A Quarter in sec one mile from City \$3 500.

Three farms on the stream, with timber, water and prairie land. There are on our list over sixty farms some are deeded many only claims. Come in and talk to us it will cost you nothing, if you behave well.

J. H. McCULLOUGH.

PARK RIVER GAZETTE - August 15, 1884

Plat of the town of PARK RIVER

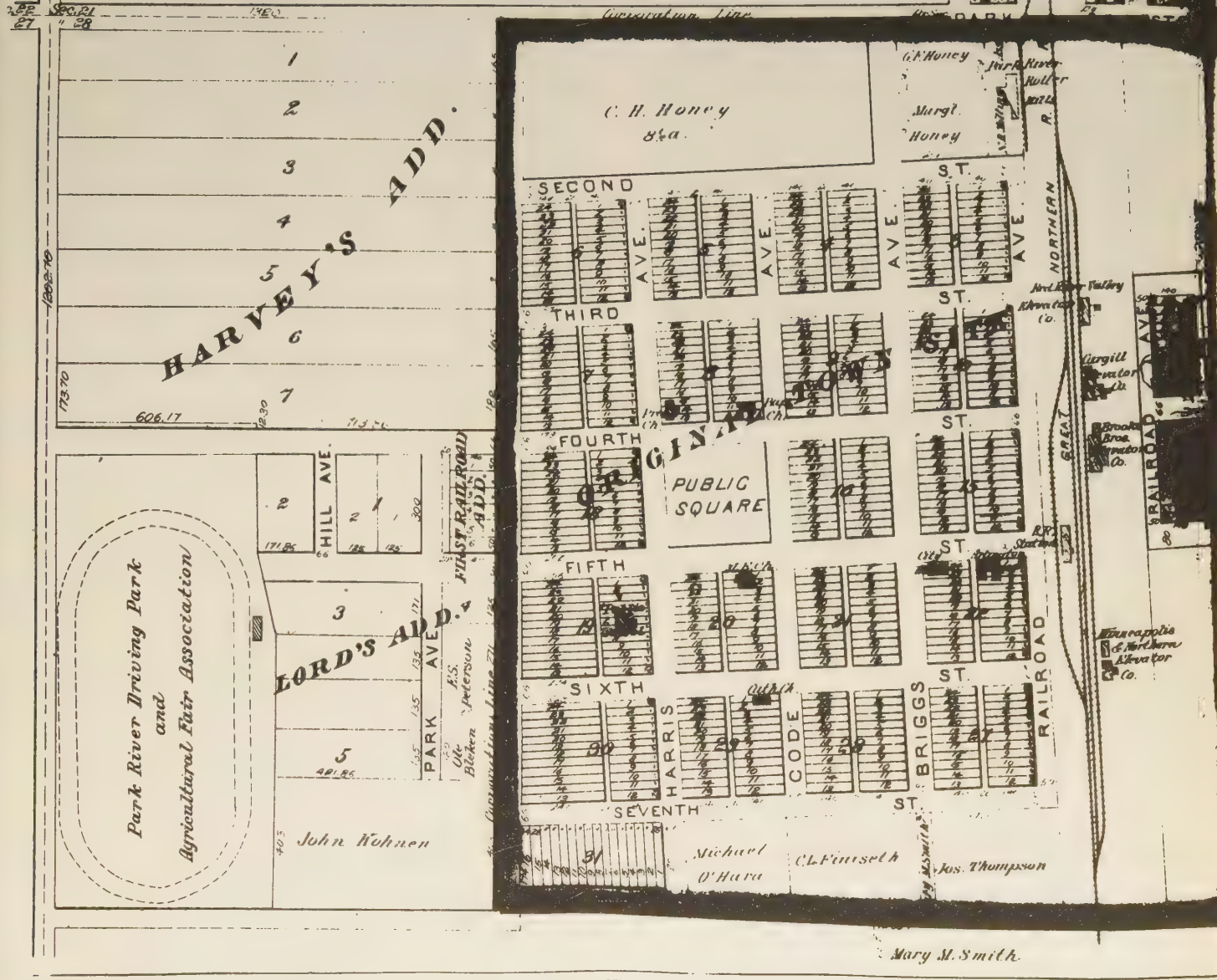
Map of 1893

Township of Kensington

Scale 300 feet 1 Inch.

J. P. Bider

Heavy black line is Park River corporation line



The original townsite of Park River shown in with bold lines.
Map of 1893.

"C.L. Finneseth and John Ofstedahl got their stocks of goods moved down from Garfield last week, they had counters up and were selling goods in their shanty building by Saturday night. Their building is on their lots nearly opposite the GAZETTE office to the north and as soon as possible they will each put up a fine building for themselves. C.L. Finneseth is already building a residence on the rear portion of his lot which he will complete this week. John Ofstedahl's sign graces his place of business. Chris O. Berg is resurrecting his old Garfield edifice in the middle of the block opposite the GAZETTE office, J. & W. W. Robertson have their lumber office nearly completed and expect to receive by first train over twenty carloads of lumber. Give them a call. Directly back of Thos. Catherwood's store will be found the blacksmith shop of Messrs. Cameron and Catherwood, they moved over from the old town of Kensington."

"Postmaster C.H. Honey of the old town of Kensington has a splendid location in the middle of the same block as the GAZETTE building which he will in the course of a week or two, or as soon as he can get the proper authority from the department remove the postoffice. A petition to the above effect has been circulated and received the endorsement of all our citizens."



Main Street of Park River - looking north is the site of the present day First Bank of Park River - 1884.

"Thos. Catherwood's store was located at the corner of 5th and Briggs Avenue in Block 21 (present site of The First State Bank of Park River). The Park River GAZETTE building was one block north. The blacksmith shop, Cameron and Catherwood, was located on the south side of the street, 5th Street, (presently occupied by Elden Syrup, adjacent to the Curling Club). The Finneseth store was located in an area just south of the middle of Block 15 418 Briggs Avenue South. Robertson's Lumber office was located in Block 22, an area on the south side of the street, 5th Street, just west of the Railroad Avenue.

Park River Gazette - Friday, September 19, 1884 - Traveling men say Park River is ahead of any town west of Fargo.

9-26-84 - Marlan Brothers of Minto started a building just north of Catherwood's Store. They will occupy as a furniture store.

A.P. Quist and Company are proprietors of the Park River Sample Rooms.

Work has begun on the foundation of Sandager and Birder's Store.

The Commercial is the name of the new hotel to be opened by John Wilton, proprietor, on Railroad Avenue and Third Street - October 3, 1884.

The Merriam Brothers Furniture Store is completed.

The Park River Bank opened October 10, 1884. The building was finished on October 24, 1884.

October 10, 1884 - Cunningham and Moran opened a billiard hall and saloon.

J. and W.W. Thompson and Currie purchased the lumber business of Stewart and Lawrence, located on the west side of the railroad on 4th Street and Railroad Avenue West. Ole Paulson is the Norwegian salesman.

October 17, 1884 -

.C.G. Jackson had a blacksmith and wagon shop.

.G.W. Hohler was a veterinarian.

.J. Spring and Son - contractors and builders.

.Merriam Brothers - furniture store on Briggs.

.R. Nevings had the City Meat Market on 3rd and Briggs.

.J.R. Thorpe opened a restaurant.

November 7, 1884 - "The Park River Bank is having all the business they can attend now-a-days, notwithstanding they are located in the rear room of the brick block, 501 Briggs Avenue.

At an election on November 7, 1884 there were 388 votes cast.

September 12, 1884 is the first time W.D. Bates is listed as publisher and editor of the Gazette. W.W. Gilbert had been the editor of the Garfield Gazette.

November 21, 1884 -

.Park River will have a Flour and Feed Store operated by Erik Erickson.

.Dr. D. Melvill, MD will locate over Page and White Store.

.City Dray and Livery - Thorson and Stevens.

.H.J. Randell will operate the Livery and Feed Stable located near the depot.

.Huntley and Davidson - house and sign painters.

November 28, 1884 -

.J.R. Thorpe has sold the European Hotel to James J. Irwin. It will be known as the City Restaurant.

.John Wilson from Garfield will start a saloon in Park River.

.The St. Paul Store, T. Hanson and Company - general merchandise - Briggs Avenue.

.Dr. George Wyld, physician and surgeon, will have his office over Haussamen and Hamilton Drug.

.Pioneer Drug - Dr. J. Robertson.

.William Braybrook will operate a bakery.

December 5, 1884 - George Waterman is operating the City Meat Market at 3rd and Briggs.

December 12, 1884 - Little and Ames have a Blacksmith and Wagon Shop.

.The Ontario Hotel is operated by Mrs. H. Thompson.

.C. Hendrickson has a hardware and lumber store.

December 18, 1884 -

H.W. Phelps, attorney-at-law, has set up a practice here.

.Postmaster Honey has announced the arrival of new boxes for the postoffice.

.J.E. White has set up the Pioneer Store.

December 26, 1884 - Miss McDonald has opened a millinery store upstairs over the Thompson Building.

By January, 1885 the GAZETTE reported that there is no town in North Dakota with as bright prospects. The names and cost of their buildings for the businesses established in Park River in the few months were listed as follows:

.T. Catherwood, general store, 5th and Briggs.....	\$2,500
.A.J. Merriam, furniture store, 515 Briggs Avenue, opened October, 1884.....	\$650
.Thomas Laheay, opera house, Briggs, between 5th and 6th Street.....	\$5,200
.R. White, store.....	\$3,000
.Wilson Bros., hotel.....	\$3,250
Brooks Bros., elevator, 45,000 bu. capacity.....	\$22,000
J. Thompson, business house.....	\$2,000
S.J. Teel - Teel's Palace, Wines, Liquors, Billiard Hall.....	\$6,400

Flekke and Nelson, general store, (The Minneapolis Store)	\$4,700
S. Cairncross, general store	\$4,000
C.O. Berg, saloon and residence, City Billiard Hall	\$2,400
George Waterman, meat market, 3rd and Briggs	\$250
E.W. Jones, "Buckingham Palace" and restaurant	\$5,200
Erik Erickson, feed store	\$2,200
Smith and Hicks, public hall	\$2,000
George LaVayea, real estate and loan broker	\$1,800
W.B. Post, hotel and blacksmith	\$1,100
I. Davis, store	\$1,500
E. Swanson, residence and laundry	\$175
James Hooey, hotel and barn	\$3,000
Jackson and Wille, store	\$2,700
J. R. White, general store,	\$2500
S. Cameron, blacksmith shop, 5th Street between Briggs and Code	\$750
Huntley and Davidson, paint shop	\$200
Thomas Libby, general store	\$1,000
Park River Bank (Brick)	\$7,000
Pillsbury and Hulburt, elevator, 50,000 bu. capacity	\$25,000
Thompson and Currie, lumber, (Sold to Northwest Lumber Co. in June, 1885)	\$2,500
B. Beers, restaurant	\$850
J. Ofstedahl, store and residence, jeweler and watch maker	\$4,500
J.H. McCullough, real estate	\$850
C.L. Finneseth, hardware store and residence	\$8,500
Sandager and Birder, clothing store (The Chicago Store)	\$3,000
George Barneby, barbershop	\$125
James Robertson, drug store	\$3,000
H.J. Randall, livery, sale and feed stables (near depot)	\$6,100
Farmers Home Saloon	\$1,700
Trovatten and Clemetson, saloon and billiard hall (Peter Clemetson sold his interest to Trovatten in Feb. 1885)	\$1500
H.J. Holbrook, saloon, barn and residence	\$1,200
V. Kubal, tailor shop and residence	\$250
T. Hanson and Co., general merchandise and residence (The St. Paul Store) Briggs Avenue	\$3,500

**A complete assortment of spectacles
with finest pebble lenses at Haussamen
& Hamilton's.**

Haussamen and Hamilton, drugs, 409 Briggs Ave.	\$3,700
H.A. Ball, Palace of Art	\$800
Thorson and Stevens, livery stable, City Dray (Ole J. Thorson)	\$1,200
J. Wilson, hardware and residence	\$3,400
Park Hotel	\$2,700
F. Palmer, law office	\$600
Deibel and Langan, Northwestern Hotel and stables, Briggs and 4th (Diebel bought out Langan in June, 1885 and sold to J.E. Mitton, July, 1886)	\$10,000
M.F. O'Brien, harness shop (Briggs Avenue)	\$1,200
Drayton Feed Store	\$250
Joe Johnson, feed mill	\$500
Little and Ames, blacksmith shop	\$1,200
J. and W.W. Robertson, lumber sheds 4th Street and Railroad Avenue West (consolidated into Robertson Lumber Company in July, 1885)	\$5,400

C. Hendrickson, hardware store	\$3,200
Dan Ledgerwood, meat market	\$900
City Bakery	\$575
Cunningham and Moran, saloon	\$2,300
Stewart and Lawrence, lumber office, Railroad Avenue West and 4th Street (Sold to the Robertson's, October, 1885)	\$400
A. Burke, blacksmith shop	
St. P.M. & M. Railway depot, round house, water tanks, coal sheds, etc.	

In addition to the above owners, the following rent places for their business:

George W. Hohler, furniture; A. LaBoit and Co., saloon; H.A. Libby, attorney; D. Melville, physician and surgeon; Miss MacDonald, millinery, Upstairs in Thompson Building; W.L. Chilcott, restaurant; George Wyld, physician and surgeon, over Haussamen and Hamilton Drug; Mrs. J.R. Thorp, restaurant; George LaVayea, townsite agent; Carman opened a livery stable near the Leahy Block; Northwestern Sample Room, George Diebel, Proprietor; M. N. Berg of Berg and Olson opened watch repair shop on Briggs Avenue; C. G. Neils sold the Park River Laundry to Misses Thompson and Molde located in Goetcher building, Briggs Avenue; Fred Herwig; shoemaker; Thomas Catherwood, surveyor and land agent; H.W. Phelps, attorney; J.G. Millspaugh, physician and surgeon; W. D. Bates, Park River Gazette; A. Settem, jeweler, watches, musical instruments; Moore and Dodd, Park River meat market, 1st floor of Gazette Building, 408 Briggs Avenue; George F. Honey, confectionery; G.W. Hohler, veterinary surgeon; W.H. Lewis, physician and surgeon (moved to Latona in July, 1885); S. E. Ayers, attorney McEwan and Dougherty, machinery, 414 Briggs Ave.; Gunder Nelson, Deering machinery; Sherman House, F.H. Cadwallader, 106-5th St. E.; Engine Operation, E.W. Nash and Co. in Wilson Block, later the Syndicate Block; New Idea, amusements, Stelzer and Kehne; Cash Store, A. Abrahamson; Dr. William Cross, dentist (Imperial Hotel).

January 9, 1885 -

.Dr. J.G. Millspaugh has a practice in Park River.

.W.L. Chilcotte has a restaurant in the Northwestern Hotel.

January 9, 1885 - Notice is given that those who owe Jacobson and Anderson can make payment at the Park River Bank.

February 6, 1885 - Thomas Catherwood has purchased the corner opposite the bank from F. Winship for \$550.00. 424 Briggs Avenue.

February 13, 1885 -

.Catherwood's Roller Rink will be ready for use next week.

.C.G. Neils opened a laundry in J.P. Goetze's Building on Briggs Avenue.

February 20, 1885 -

.Peter Clemetson sold his interest out to Oscar Trovatten in the Billiard Hall.

.Aakrann and Emmerson have added a lunch room to the popular sample room.

May 29, 1885 -

.Mail service between Park River and Grafton will be every other day instead of every 3rd day.

.The Gazette has moved into their new building. The first floor is to be used by Moore and Dodd as a meat market. 408½ Briggs.

June 19, 1885 - George Diebel has bought out John Langan's Northwestern Hotel.

June 26, 1885 - Curry and Thompson sold the lumber company to the Northwest Lumber Company.

**Mixed nuts twenty cents per pound at
E. W. Nash & Co's**

July, 1885 -

.E.W. Nash has opened a store - Fruits, Confectionery, Cigars - in the Wilson Block.

.In July, 1885, Warner and Stoltze took over the Thompson Lumber Yard, Sol H. Bailey, Mgr.

.Dr. W.H. Lewis left Park River for Latona.

.Announcement was made that J.H. Townsend will build a 5th elevator in Park River.

.The Livery Stable previously owned by Randall is now Randall and Currie.

.Thorson and Erickson are operating the City Dray Line. (In January 1886 Thorson was the sole operator of the dray line.)

In October, 1885 -

.John Ofstedahl opened the Garfield Store, general merchandise. 420 Briggs Avenue South.

.Mr. Swanison built a livery stable on the east side on 4th Street opposite the Brooks Elevator.

.Thomas Leahy built a building on the corner of Briggs and 4th Street.

.Misses Thompson and Molde sold out the laundry to John Chinaman.

.Julia Gruebel opened a millinery and dressmaking shop on Briggs Avenue opposite the Park Hotel.

.G.F. Ames from old Kensington set up a feed mill north of Robertson Lumber.

.James Holland set up a law practice.

.The Central House, 112-5th St. W., stable in connection, was operated by John Ildstad, 2 doors west of First National Bank.

.Donald Lennon leased the Park Hotel.

.Thomas Fallis opened a tailor shop above the Catherwood Store.

On November 20, 1885, it was announced that Smith and Kohnen's Feed Mill arrived last night and is operating today.

.E.W. Jones sold the Buckingham Palace to M.J. Fitzpatrick.

.Jones has bought the Kensington House and will fix it into a hotel.

In November, 1885, Code and Paulson, a new firm, will put up a building opposite the Gazette to sell farm machinery.

.Dr. George Wyld left Park River for Canada.

November 19, 1885 -

.The Brooks Brothers Elevator burned to the ground, 35,000 bushels were lost. The elevator is to be rebuilt with a 75,000 bushel capacity.

.George H. Glass announced his store has a large stock of frames, pictures and a bric-a-brack.

.The Kensington House, Peter Laur, Manager, has been redone and is now the Bonnie House.

In December, 1885, it was announced that H.J. Ephraim was closing out his store. 406 Briggs Avenue.

.George F. Honey is operating the Postoffice Book Store.

.The farmers in the area voted to build a Farmers Elevator, 12-18-85.

.Park River Mills, flour and feed, is operated by Smith and Kohnen.

.Miss Aslakson opened a millinery shop.

.A. Vessey and Son of Salk Center, Minnesota opened a flour and feed store in the Leahy Building on Briggs and 4th Street.

.C.J. Hill will locate an Agricultural Warehouse nearly opposite the Northwest Hotel.

.A Roller Rink will open under the management of Joe Catherwood.

In June, 1885, the Cargill Elevator was built.

.Cameron and Catherwood had a blacksmith shop. 106-5th St. West.

December 11, 1885 - H.J. Ephraim of the Chicago Store, who has disposed of his handsome building to the new banking firm, will withdraw from the field in Park River on account of his health which is affected by the close confinement to his business. We are sorry to lose Mr. Ephraim from the business ranks of Park River. He will continue his business at the branch establishment at Grand Forks. In order to avoid shipping his goods back to the Forks he will dispose of his immense stock of clothing at private sale or auction. Mr. Ephraim informs us that this stock will be closed out at cost, which will be 10 percent cheaper than other merchants can purchase.

December 11, 1885 - A new bank will be established in Park River on or about February 1. There have been numerous rumors about Park River to the effect that a new bank is to be established here, but this was not confirmed until a GAZETTE reporter interviewed one of the parties concerned. Mr. Henry Kellar, president of the First National Bank of Sauk Center, Minnesota, with a syndicate of capitalists, will establish a bank in the Ephraim brick block on Briggs Avenue (406 Briggs), the building being leased for two years and a half with the privilege of purchasing at anytime it is thought advisable. Mr. Kellar will be president and C.D. Lord, present cashier of the First National Bank of Sauk Center, will act as cashier. It will be known as the Citizens Bank of Park River. We are informed that the association has, like all other enterprises established at Park River, an unlimited capital at its back. Mr. Kellar is well known throughout the Northwest as a successful businessman. The bank will be open for business by February 1, or earlier, if Mr. Ephraim is able to close out his business before that time. (Note: It was named the Bank of Park River).

December 11, 1885 - It may be interesting to the young men and bachelors of Park River that the Kensington House will be opened on December 15 under the management of Peter Lawr who will be pleased to accommodate those who desire a first-class quiet boarding place. The house is being entirely remodeled and furnished throughout. Suffice it to say that McCarthy and Sprague are doing the papering and decorating. The place will be called the Bonnie House.

12-11-85

Report

**Of Park River school for the month
ending Nov. 27: Number of pupils en-
rolled, 76; number of days taught, 19; av-
erage daily attendance, 53.**

M. E. QUIGLEY, Principal.

First National Bank of Park River - December 11, 1885 (Fore runner of First Bank of Park River). We are pleased to announce that the stock of the new First National Bank of Park River is fully subscribed and now ready to be called in and the Park River Bank will commence business as a national bank on or about January 1. David H. Beecher informs us that the following will be the officers: David H. Beecher, president; Franklin Edgerton, vice president; Sidney Clarke, cashier. The board of directors will be Henry J. Randall, Charles H. Honey, J.B. Sanborn, Henry M. Beecher, Sidney Clarke, Franklin Edgerton and David Beecher. We take pride in pointing to the financial strength of our new bank; its stockholders represent an actual worth of over

\$600,000. We are pleased to note the extent to which our own businessmen are interested. Thirteen of our leading merchants and prominent men are stockholders, they own the larger share of the capital stock so that the new bank may truthfully be called a home institution. David H. Beecher informs us that extensive arrangements were made during his recent eastern trip by which the bank is prepared to place all that can be loaned on all kinds of securities, in fact such arrangements at once makes Park River a financial centre for Walsh County.

1886 - John Langan leased the billiard hall formerly occupied by James Cunningham for a sample room.

February 1, 1886 - The Town Well on Briggs and 4th Street contained 32' of water.

Erik Erickson operated the Opera House Sample Room on Briggs.

The Bank of Park River opened February 1, 1886 in Ephraim's Building. Henry Kelleher was president, C.D. Lord, cashier. (Premises occupied by Dr. Earl Infeld in 1983.)

In March, 1886, James Currie bought out the Sherman House from F.H. Cadwallader. It is located opposite the depot. Then Cadwallader opened a cafe on 5th Street near the depot, opposite the Sherman House. 106-5th Street East.

In January, 1886, the Park River Bank which had been established in October, 1884 changed its name to First National Bank. 501 Briggs Ave. South.

A Timely is the proprietor of the Chicago Saloon and Billiard Hall on Briggs Avenue.

The Langen Brothers are proprietors of the "Litte Gem," a liquor store, on Briggs.

Warner and Stoltz are dealers in coal and wood.

Hanson and Simpson are operating the Norman House.

Cliff and Dow operate the livery stable on 106-4th Street West. Their office is at the Northwest Hotel.

The Sherman House, formerly operated by the Wilson Brothers, is now run by Randall and Currie as the Arlington House. It is 75' on 5th Street, 2 stories high. James Hill is the manager. 106-5th Street East.)

M.F. O'Brien is the operator of the Park River Harness Shop.

In March, 1886, Thomas Johnson brought horses in from Iowa. They will be sold at the C. Erickson's Stables.

April 2, 1886 - E. W. Jones sold the old Kensington House to H. Suter.

Misses Thompson and Molde opened a laundry in Goetchie's Building.

In December, 1886, Berg had a closing out sale. (Jewelry Store).

In 1886 Charles Johnson sold organs and pianos.

In April, 1886, Yeo and Widdes operated a factory on 5th Street and were contractors and builders of farm rollers.

The second story of Thomas Catherwood's building at the corner of Briggs and 5th is getting completed. (424 Briggs Ave. South.)

Trivia in the April 9, 1886 publication: James Wilson has for his hardware sign a mammoth padlock. It is warranted to hold all of the defeated candidates on May 4, or until their political blood becomes normal.

In April, 1886, C. Schjerden was the manager of Abrahamsen's General Store, Staple Groceries.

S.J. Teel rented out his premises to Barnesville Party.

Oscar Trovatten operated a billiard hall.

The North Dakota Roller Mills was operated by J. McDonald and Company on Briggs Avenue.

In May, 1886, Moore and Dodd closed out their business, the Park River Meat Market. Dan Lidgerwood and P.D. Briggs took over the stock and W.D. Bates bought out the interest in the Syndicate Block.

May 21, 1886, George Lucas had a photography shop set up in the the H.A. Ball Bowling Alley.

July 2, 1886 - J.E. Mitton purchased the Northwestern Hotel property for \$6,000 from George Diebel. Diebel will continue the same business although he owns the adjoining building on the North, all on Briggs Avenue.

E.V. Hauser, formerly of Crookston, opened a fruit and confectionery store in the Syndicate Block adjoining the Northwestern Hotel.

On Briggs near the First National Bank the Park River Chinese Laundry was operated by Sing Lee, proprietor.

In July, 1886, Sander Soll and Ole Huseth prepare to open a meat market on 4th Street. Carpenters are now at work on a new building. 324 Briggs.

August, 1886 - Dow and Carmen Livery Stable has moved to the Northwestern Hotel Barn.

A. L. Beavar and Company are dealers in fine Havana cigars.

August 13, 1886 - the buildings on the County Poor Farm are just about completed and will be turned over to the County on August 30.

John McCarthy put in a complete line of wall paper in the A.J. Merriam Store.

September 3, 1886 - the Huseth and Soll meat market was opened. 324 Briggs.

A new millinery store was opened by McLean and Waldon.



Main Street looking south - 1887. The building at the left is the Finneseth Store presently housing Welch's Bakery.

September 1886, M.F. O'Brien moved his harness shop to the building formerly used by the North Dakota Roller Mills on Briggs Avenue.

Through 1886 Park River experienced rapid growth. Something to be wondered at. Yet when all was considered, the country was settled and cultivated, substantial farm dwellings were found in every direction, all waiting for a railroad and market for their accommodation. The country around about Park River had been settled five years before the railroad came in. The first building erected was the Pioneer Drug Store by Dr. J. Robertson moved from the inland town of Garfield where he had been doing business for about two years. The second complete building was the real estate and loaning office of J.H. McCullough, also moved from Garfield. Prior to either of these, however, the enterprising firm of Page and White had moved a part of their stock of general merchandise to a building near the present townsite. It is impossible to say who came first as there was a general

stampede to get suitable lots and be the first to get a lead in any line. Each and every person who had been doing business at Garfield moved to the new town, leaving only the liberty pole to show where once had been a busy little village. Garfield was located approximately 7 miles west and ½ mile north of the present site of Park River. With all the rush and excitement there was no boom or what is usually called boom. The railroad had come into a country that was already developed, a city or at least a large town was needed and could be supported. Grafton was seventeen miles distant to the east, Conway, to the south, twelve miles. To the north there are forty-two miles to the boundary line, all thickly settled with no town or railroad near them. To the west the settlement extends about twenty-five miles, all of which is tributary to Park River. Knowing these facts, can anyone wonder that our city should spring from a wheat field in the fall of 1884 to a flourishing town of about 1,500 in the spring of 1886. The businesses at that time included: The First National Bank, D.H. Beecher, President, occupied a fine brick building on Briggs Avenue. The Bank of Park River, presided over by C.D. Lord, can also be found environed by solid brick walls on the opposite side of the same street. Both banks appeared to be doing a first class, yet conservative, business. In addition to the banks, there were now ten general merchandise stores, all apparently doing a good business; two good drug stores; three first class hardware stores; nine saloons (to supply the necessities of life); six good hotels; besides two restaurants, four livery barns, five farm machinery firms, four elevators; three very fine churches, Baptist, Methodist and Presbyterian; a good brick school house in course of construction; two furniture stores; four attorneys, three physicians, photograph gallery; two newspapers; three blacksmith shops; harness shop; shoe shop; barber shop; millinery shops by the wholesale; two feed mills and two first class flour and feed stores.



Park River - 1887. At the extreme left is McEwan and Dougherty Implement Dealers (414 Briggs): next building unknown; Finneseth's Hardware (418 Briggs) now the site of the Dental Clinic; John Ofstedahl's General Store (formerly the Fashion Shop and now a part of today's Coast to Coast Store) 420 Briggs.

A disastrous fire hit the city in 1887. The fire started in the Windsor Hotel owned by J.E. Mitton. As there was very little equipment for fighting fires, every building on the east side of Block 9 and west side of Block 10 were consumed with the exception of the corner store, 324 Briggs Avenue, (now owned by the Landsborough family, presently housing Wages Auto Supply, 1983).

Some businesses listed for January, 1887 were:

.Haussamen and Hamilton Drug - 409 Briggs Avenue.

.George B. Gross - miscellaneous, tablets and paper.

J.E. Mitton is proprietor of the Northwestern Hotel located at Briggs and 4th Street.

- .Mrs. B. Prom operated a millinery store.
- .Gunder Nelson - sewing machines.
- .M.F. O'Brien had his Park River Harness Shop, and John Code was in the machinery business.
- .C. Hendrickson and Company - hardware.
- .Cairncross and Company - general merchandise.
- .A. Settem - watches.
- .W.T. Fallis had a tailor shop over Catherwood's store.
- .City Meat Market - Briggs and Ledgerwood - closed the market in March, 1887.
- .J.E. White operated the Pioneer Store.
- .John Ildstad operated the Central Hotel 2 doors west of the First National Bank.
- .J.P. Wagner had the Peoples Harness Shop.
- .The Syndicate Block was located next door to the Northwest Hotel.
- .John McCarthy had papering, painting, glazing, sign and carriage painting next door to Merriam's Store.
- .A Flour and Feed Store was operated by A. Vessey and Son on Briggs and 4th Street and they closed their business August 12, 1887.
- .J.P. Birder operated his Chicago Store.
- .J.M. Holland was an agent for Dakota Mutual Insurance.
- .H. Dow Livery Stable was located on 4th street.
- .Ole J. Thorson was operating the City Dray Line.
- .Huseth and Soll operated the Park River Meat Market at 324 Briggs Ave. So.
- .The Pioneer Drug - Dr. J. Robertson.
- .John Langan had a dray line.
- .E.W. Jones - liquor and cigars, taken over by Owen O'Reilly on January 28, 1887.
- .Park River Billiards - liquor and cigars - O.J. Thorson.
- .A. Timely was proprietor of the Chicago Saloon.
- .Chris O. Berg operated the City Billiard Hall - liquors.
- .George Diebel has the Northwest Sample Room.
- February 11, 1887, Miss Hanson opened a dress making shop upstairs in the Smith Building on Briggs Avenue.
- April 1, 1887, the Troy Laundry moved to the Smith Building, 1 door south of the First National Bank - Mrs. Thompson.
- June 10, 1887 - W.L. Chilcott moved to Minot.



Main Street looking south - 1887. The structure at the right of center is the Walstrom Store. (401 Briggs Avenue)

The period of 1887 to 1896:

When the town of Park River began its existence S. Cairncross associated himself with H.R. Aslakson of Willmar, Minnesota and established a large general merchandise store under the firm name of S. Cairncross and Company. Another general merchandise store was also established at the same time by Jacob P. Birder and P. E. Sandager under the firm name of Sandager and Birder. These two rival establishments were in

business as competitors for a number of years, but in 1890 Sandager and Birder sold their business to Cairncross and Company, and the two large establishments became consolidated, resulting in the birth of the Mammoth department store of Park River, removing its entire business to the corner of Briggs and 4th Street. Mr. Cairncross sold his interest in the business to his son-in-law, Fred Walstrom of Grafton, and for a number of years the business was conducted under the firm name of Aslakson and Walstrom. In 1899 when the town of Edmore sprang up on the Lakota branch Mr. Aslakson sold out and moved to Edmore. From that time Mr. Walstrom has been the sole proprietor.

Aslakson and Marifjeren established a hardware store. During its development the business passed through many hands, Aslakson Brothers buying out the first owners, Thomas Wadge buying them out, and Andrew Hall bought out Thomas Wadge. In 1901 Overbye and Marifjeren bought out Mr. Hall. 405 Briggs Avenue.

1890 - George H. Glass removed to the Twin Cities and sold his business (furniture) to his competitors, so the two establishments were consolidated. A.J. Merriam became the sole proprietor. He conducted the business for a few years until he moved to California. Later on the business was sold to John Aamoth.

April, 1893 - John Aamoth sold the stock and fixtures of his general merchandise store to T.T. Thompson. T.T. Thompson bought the building that housed the store - 419 Briggs Avenue South - at the same time.

In spite of the conditions, by 1896 varied businesses were still in full operation. The population of Park River at that time was about 850. It was reported that more grain was shipped from here than from any other town in the surrounding country. A daily stage operated to Grafton, the fare was \$1.50. There was much wheeling and dealing among the early settlers. The list of business places for 1896-97 included the following:

Abbey, Richard P. - general store; Anderson, Andrew, jeweler; Arlington House, Frank Hughes, Prop.; Aslakson Brothers (Theo F. and Henry R.) hardware; Bank of Park River (capital \$30,000) J.P. Birder, president, C.D. Lord, cashier;



Bond, Mrs. Belle B., milliner; Brooks Elevator Company, W.T. Buckingham, Agent; Burke, Anton, Blacksmith; Cameron, Stephen A., Blacksmith; Cargill Elevator Company, L.F. Landon, Agent; Catherwood, Thomas, Farm Implements; Catherwood, Thomas A., Blacksmith; Doering, Edmund O., Harnessmaker; Douglas, Samuel A., Physician; Fallis, William T., Tailor; First National Bank (capital \$50,000) D.H. Beecher, president, G.E. Towle, cashier; Gazette, The - J. Morley Wyard, Publisher; Halldorson, Martin, physician; Hasle, Ole E., Hardware - formerly C.L. Finneseth Hardware - 418 Briggs Avenue.

Haussamen and Hamilton (Henry L. Haussamen Oliver I. Hamilton) - Drugs - 409 Briggs Avenue; Honey Brothers (Wm.F. and George F.) - Flour Mill - Highway 17; Kopelman, Morris, Dry goods; Libby, Hiram A. - Lawyer; McEwan and Dougherty (George K. McEwan and James J. Dougherty) - Farm Implements; McLean, Hugh - Baker; Merriam, Amos J. - Furniture, 515 Briggs Ave.; Minneapolis and Northern Elevator Co., H.B. Newcomb, Agent; Nelson, Christian E., general store (closed January 1898); Nelson, Emil - jeweler; North Dakota Milling Ass'n., H.R. Lyons, reciever; Ostboe, Peter, photographer - 104-4th St. W., Park River Livery, Sale and Boarding Stable, E.R. Swarthout, Prop - 109-5th St. E., Quigley, Michael E. - fancy goods; Robertson Lumber Company, - H. Nesne, Agt.; St. Anthony and Dakota Elevator Company, A.R. Martin, Agent; Sheppard, James N., Veterinary Surgeon; Smith-Peterson, Erasmus - Lawyer; Smith, Thomas K. - Dray Line; Soll, Andrew L. - Meats; Soll, Charles-Barber; Standard Oil Co. - S.F. Wilson, Agent; Stoltze, Fred H. - Lumber; Stranahan and Hamre (Charles S. Stranahan, John O. Hamre)-Drugs; Thompson, Thor T.-Confectionery-419 Briggs Ave.; Wadge and Johnson (Thomas Wadge and Thomas Johnson) - Farm Implements - formerly Code and Paulson; Windell, James D. - Physician and Surgeon; Windsor, The - William A. Monroe, Prop.; Wyard, Mrs. Margaret - Notions; Wyllie, John - Blacksmith; Young, George W. - Lawyer.



View of Park River from the Southwest - 1898.



J.S. McCauley's Livery Stable - 1898.
107 5th Street West



December 27, 1898. H. and O. Hall's Departure for Christiana, Norway. Standing: Henry Anderson, druggist; I.P. Overbye, hardware; Ole E. Hasle, hardware; O.A. Hall; H.A. Hall, clothier in partnership with Brandt; Dr. M. Halldorson, MD; G.C. Jensen; Gust Brandt, clothing. Center row: (seated in chairs): Clarence Erickson; Fred Carlson; Dr. L.A. Brustad, MD. Front row: Ole Ekeberg; Andrew Hall, hardware; Andrew Kjos; John O. Hamre, druggist.



Main Street in 1899.

For 1898-99 it is recorded that two churches had been established in addition to the three already in Park River, Catholic and Lutheran. Two more grain elevators were established and another newspaper, The Park River News. Businesses added and deleted were:

Abbey, Richard P. - general store (deleted); Aamoth, J. and Co. - furniture; Anderson, Henry - drugs; Anderson, Ole H. - blacksmith; Brustad, L.A. - physician; Budreader, James G. - barber; Burger, R.B. - grain elevator; Code, William - blacksmith; Corbett, W.F. - dentist; Dodge, Mrs. E.G. - millinery; Finneseth, A. and Co. - general store; Graham, W.J. - drugs (Palace Drug) - sold to J.A. Dunn and J.D. Robertson, Jan. 5, 1900; Hall and Brandt - Gent's furnishings and shoes, 412 Briggs Ave; Haussamen and Hamilton - drugs (deleted); Honey, John A. - confectionery; Hughes, Frank - restaurant; Johnson and Robertson, Livery and Feed; Kisner, W.W. - grocer; Kroemar, A.L. - shoemaker; Loftus and Bannerman (Chris Loftus and Alexander Bannerman) - hardware; McLeod, George L. - fruits; McLean, Hugh - baker (deleted); NEWS, The - G.S. Buck, publisher, 321 Briggs; North Dakota Milling - Thomas E. Hawley, Agt.; Orrey, John - baker; Stodle, J.C. - general store; Thorson, Halvor J. - confectionery; Trotter Bros. (Wm. and Thomas) - general store; Trovatten, Oscar A. - farm



Cameron Blacksmith Shop - 106 5th Street West. In doorway: Louis McPherson, Mr. Wadge and S.A. Cameron.

implements; Wilson, S.F. - dray and fuel; Wyard, Mrs. Margaret - notions (deleted); J.B. Taintor put up a large quantity of ice to use in his butcher shop, 422 Briggs Ave.; Feed and Seed Stable - James McCauley - opposite First National Bank - 2-28-98. January 24, 1900 - Pomranke has good, cold ice for sale.

Fred Facey was a wagon maker operating at the rear of Cameron's Blacksmith Shop.

February 20, 1900 - the ownership of the Park River News was transferred from J.P. Birder to Frank J. Prochaska. Birder was sole owner of Park River News after purchasing the Smith, Bolton and Vorachek interest on February 9, 1900. Prochaska is Birder's nephew.

R.C. Reinertson was the general manager of the Park River Gold and Copper Milling Co. over Park River Bank Building.

S.O. Huseth received a carload of store fixtures. Will establish a jewelry store.

Joe Brulle has purchased the harness business from H.M. Tosdal.

March 2, 1900 - Ed Peters of Pisek has bought one-half interest in the farm implement business from S.B. Warner.

March 9, 1900 - J.E. Brulle sold his harness shop to Johnson and Robertson.

May 11, 1900 - W.C. Briggs of Briggs and Wadge Hardware Store sold his one-half interest to Tom Wadge. Earlier in the year Briggs was in partnership with Berkshiemer.

Ed Code has purchased the building and lot, 424 Briggs Ave., now occupied by Warner and Peters and will move his confectionery into it.

July 13, 1900 - the firm of Wilson and Landon is dissolved. S.F. Wilson is retiring and Landon is continuing the lumber business.

August 10, 1900 - Inkerman Davis took over the Koppelman Building.

McEwan and Dougherty sold out to Leonard and Peters, then succeeded by W.W. Leonard.

January 14, 1898 - Edison's Projected Kinetoscope at Opera House on January 18, 1898. Admission 25 cents and 35 cents.

February 28, 1901, the town suffered another disastrous fire. The fire had started in Loftus, Bannerman and Booth's Hardware Store located at 405 Briggs Ave. S. At that time every building in Block 15 and 16 facing the main street on both sides were burned excepting two brick buildings in block 15. When these buildings were rebuilt they were required to be built of brick.

Business ads in the Park River Gazette--News for July, 1902, include the following:

Park River Steam Laundry; W.T. Fallis, Tailor in S.O.



The fire in Park River in February, 1901. The structures you see standing are: (l-r): The Depot, The Arlington House (today's site of Skjerven's Garage) and the City Hall. The grain elevator at the back of the Arlington House is the Minneapolis and Northern Elevator Company.

Huseth's Store; H.A. Pomranke, City Dray Line; E.R. Swarthout, Machinery; Eli Lockrem Manufacturing - cigars; W.M. Leonard - Deering Binders (Formerly McEwan and Dougherty); S.K. Hall, music lessons - Walstrom Block; Dr. G.S. Kerr, dentist, Walstrom Block; W.J. Edwards, Walstrom Block; R. Blomquist, piano tuner; S.O. Huseth, Jewelry, 420 Briggs; Anderson Drug Store, 409 Briggs; Sr. S. Douglas, physician and surgeon, over Anderson's Drug Store; John H. Owen, Attorney; G.W. Young, Attorney - office adjacent to First National Bank; The Misses McLean Dressmaking have removed from Powell's to Rooms 4 and 6, Young Bldg.; Edwards Wood and Company, Grain Traders office in Code Block; Anderson and Nelson - Men's furnishings; Loftus and Loftus Hardware; J.P. Birder - The Minneapolis Store.

. Macfarlane Brothers and Watson were successors to Johnson and Robertson Livery, Sale and Feed Stable. A month later Alex Watson became the sole owner.

.John Aamoth and Company became the Merriam Store (furniture) located at 503 Briggs Avenue South.

.Hubler and Colborn, dentists, were located in the Taintor Block.

.Thomas Johnson sold McCormick binders and other lines of machinery.

.Larson and Company - Lumber and Building Materials.

In 1903 there were ads for:

.The New Store - Dry goods opened in the Huseth Block, opposite the Woodard Block.

.Landon and Company - Lumber and Building materials.

.Hanson and Catherwood - Jewelry; successor to S.O. Huseth. Optical work a specialty, 420 Briggs Ave.

.Jim Jack is the new manager of the Robertson Lumber Company.

.Trovatten and Towle - Farm Implements - 117 5th Street East.

May, 1903 - Wesolosky and Brandt - the Minneapolis Cash Department Store, dry goods and groceries. In October, 1903, they had a Forced Sale; J.F. Gordon, Trustee. The store closed in March, 1904.

.J.P. Birder - Investment Banker; Park River Steam Laundry, Mr. Wilde, Prop.; Fred Walstrom, 401-403 Briggs; W.T. Fallis; Marifjeren and Overbye Hardware, 405 Briggs; Hall and Brandt - clothiers, 407 Briggs; H.A. Pomranke - ice and water, 108-6th St.



Hanson - Catherwood Jewelry Store - 1901

June 19, 1903 - DROP SALE - Entire Stock of Men's Straw Hats. Over 200 different styles over 800 hats worth 25 cents to \$1.50 as follows:

Monday, 85 cents; Tuesday, 50 cents; Wednesday, 35 cents; Thursday, 25 cents; Friday, 17 cents; Saturday, 8 cents.

If you need a hat now is the time and here is the place.

F. Walstrom and Co.

E.; John H. Owen, attorney; Dr. S. Douglas, physician and surgeon over Anderson's Drug; H.A. Libby, attorney - First National Bank Block; Myers and Myers, attorney, (Jeff located in Grafton, Joel in Park River. Office with J.P. Birder) ; Jenson and Pederson - Farm Implements and Farmer's Supplies; Robert C. Cliff, Veterinarian - 2 doors north of Public School; Dr. S.G. Kerr, Dentist - Walstrom Block, went to Edinburg every Monday; Dr. Waugh - office over Dunn Drug Co. - Physician and Surgeon; E. Herwick - Contractor and Builder - rooms in T.T. Thompson Block; Dr. Halldorson, MD - located over Hamre Drug; Dr. L.A. Brustad, Physician and Surgeon - over Hall and Brandt Store; G.W. Young, attorney - First National Bank Bldg.; T.K. Smith, County Justice - Union Block; Dr. W.M. Hubler, Dentist - Union Block over J.J. Irwin's; J.J. Kohnen - auctioneer; Lofthus and Lofthus - Hardware; McEwan and Dougherty - farm machinery; Goldstein and Aronovitch - butter and eggs buyers, located in Huseth Block - "Bigger Bargain House." E. Thornberg, Jeweler in Joe Irwin's Place - Eye Glases and Spectacles

June, 1903 - A telephone was installed in McLeod's Bakery. Orders for wheat and rye bread can be made by calling 60. Bread is 4 cents per loaf delivered at your house. In July, 1903, a new oven was installed and the enlargement allows for 300 loaves daily.

July, 1903 - S. and C. Olson, proprietors of the furniture store north of the Windsor Hotel disposed of everything and retired.

July 17, 1903 - Miss Beard, a trimmer in Mrs. Weber's Millinery Store, returned to Minneapolis.

.Thomas Catherwood - eye examiner - Retinoscopy - new method of eye examination. Satisfaction guaranteed.

.Mr. William Graham was the proprietor of the Palace Drug which he sold in 1899 to Dunn Drug.

.E.B. Woodard - Tonsorial Parlor, 421 Briggs.

.J.A. Weider - Bowling Alley and Billiard Room (sold to Pennington Brothers in October, 1903).

.Hotel Bellerica

.Anderson and Son - Livery, Feed and Sale Stable, 106 5th St. W.
 .Andrew A. Hall who had been a hardware merchant has moved to Crookston.
 .James Robertson - Druggist.
 .A. Wilson opened a tailor shop over Irwin's Store in September, 1903.
 .Andrew Anderson added a bakery to his restaurant.
 .Ed Code operated a store in 1903, 424 Briggs Ave.
 .Alden's Dairy.
 .F.H. Stoltze Lumber Company.
 .Charles Soll, Pioneer Barber - sold to Harry Hulbert. Soll moved to Tacoma in October, 1903. Joe Masloski of Mayville is a new barber in the Hulbert Shop (11-6-03).
 .Dr. J.M. Schram, Dentist - Walstrom Block.
 .David Aitken has purchased farm machinery business from W.W. Leonard - formerly McEwan and Dougherty.
 .City Bakery - Joseph Little, Proprietor, 410 Briggs Ave.
 .Levang and Lockren Partnership dissolved. Mr. Lockren is now the sole proprietor of the Livery and Feed Barn. (December 11, 1903).

.George L. McLeod - Cigar Store.
 December, 1903 - Ed Code branched out his telephone system along the river road east to Kensington Bridge.
 .E. Thornberger's Jewelry and Opticians.
 .John Aamoth and Company - complete line of wallpaper, carpets, rugs, baby carriages and go-carts.

Goldstein and Aronovitch closed out January 20, 1904.
 1904 - Park River Mining Company reincorporated under the title of the Idaho Good Hope Mining Company Limited; Thomas Wadge, Vice President.

.M.E. Skala and Company - Harness Shop.
 May, 1904 - City Bakery - 410 Briggs Ave. - Armstrong Bros., proprietors. They bought out Joseph Little.

July, 1904 - W.H. Wilde operated the Home Hand Laundry.
 .Anderson and Nelson - Right Price Department Store (clothing line) was taken over by C.E. Nelson in October, 1905. (323 Briggs Avenue South).

.The Minneapolis Department Store - Lyman Brandt - closed out December, 1905.

.Park River Furniture Company advertised in the September, 1905 paper.

By 1906 the town was pretty well reestablished. The estimated population was 1,500. The Episcopal church was established, the town now had a public hall, a public library, fire department, water works and electric lights. There are now 5 elevators and two weekly newspapers, The Gazette-News and Walsh County



DAVID AITKEN MACHINERY - 1906

Front: Billy Cost, Dick Pengilly, man, woman and children unidentified, Amos Pengilly, Cyrus Bateman, Blake Ormiston, David Aitken and Jack Pengilly. To right of pole: Chris Hanson, unidentified, Hugh Loughhead, Mel Abel, Tweksbury, Jens Jensen, George Best, Enoch Larson, Duncan McLean, David Bruce. In large doorway: Pete Campbell, Olaf Larson, Billy Metz, unidentified. In smaller doorway at right: Clark McLaughlin, John Lohse, Angus Ferguson, Knute Gausaker, Otto Letzring and his son Ernest.

Republican. The business establishments listed for that time were:

Aitken, David - farm implements; Anderson, Henry - drugs, 409 Briggs Ave.; Anderson and Son (Andrew G. and George A.B.) Livery, Boarding and Sale Stable, 107 5th St. W.; Armstrong and Pennington (Arthur Armstrong, Wm. Pennington) Temperance saloon, cigars, soft drinks, pool hall, etc.; Bank of Park River, 405 Briggs Ave., C.D. Lord, President, H.D. Whitefield, cashier; Berge, Einar - insurance agent; Bolstad, Syver K. - general store; Brustad, Ludvig A. - physician; Burke, Anton - blacksmith; Cameron, Stephen A. - blacksmith, 106 5th St. W.; Cargill Elevator - Sylvester Wilson, Agent; Case, J.I. Threshing Machine Co. - John Bidlake, Agent; Catherwood, John - Blacksmith; Catherwood, Thomas - jeweler; Cliff, Robert C. - veterinary surgeon; Code, Edward - confectionery and jeweler, 424 Briggs Ave.; Doty, Calvin C. - Publisher Walsh County Republican; Douglas, Samuel - physician; Duluth Elevator Co. - J.J. McGraw, Agent; Dunn Drug Co. - (John A. Dunn, James D. Robertson, Carl V. Swenson); Edwards-Wood Co., H.C. Kimball, Mgr. Comn.; Fallis, William T. - tailor; Finneseth, Anna - general store, 402 Briggs Ave.; First National Bank, 501 Briggs Ave., David H. Beecher, President, George E. Towle, cashier; Gates Bros. (Herman and Cass) draymen and fuel; Gazette-News, The - F.J. Prochaska, publisher; Grace, Robert N. - music teacher; Haggeman, Charles - billiards; Hagglund, John O. - house, sign and carriage painter; Hall and Brandt (Helge A. Hall, Gustav Brandt) clothing and shoes, 407 Briggs Ave.; Halldorson, Moritz - physician; Hamre, John O. - drugs and medicines, 412 Briggs; Hasle, Ole E. - hardware, 418 Briggs Ave.; Holland, Samuel - machinery, 314 Code Ave.; Honey Brothers (Wm. F. and George F.) proprietors of Park River Roller Mills; Hotel Bellerica, Wallace Magoon, prop.; Hughes, Frank, prop., Windsor Hotel; Hulbert, Henry - barber; Imperial Elevator Co. - Robert Johnson, Agt.; Irwin, John J. - confectionery, 415 Briggs Ave.; Iverson, Iver - livery, feed and sale stable; Jarvis, Eli J. - barber; Jenson and Son (John and Lars) - grocers; Johnson, John P. - real estate loans, mines and



Five of the Large Elevators Where North Dakota Banks Her Wealth

In the rear is the Flour Mill - far left - 1906

justice; Johnson, Thomas - farm implements, 316-318 Briggs Ave.; King, Effie - photographer; Landon, R.F. and Co. (Richard F.) - lumber; Laurier and Lacourse (Joseph Laurier, Albert J. Lacourse) - feed mill; Lee, Gilbert O. - dentist; Leedham, George T. - meats; Leonard, William M. - livery; Libby, Hiram A. - lawyer (continued until 1913); Little, Joseph - baker; McEwan and Dougherty (George K. McEwan, James J. Dougherty) - real estate; McLeod, George L. - confectionery, 410 Briggs Ave.; Marifjeren and Overbye (Nels J. Marifjeren, Iver P. Overbye) - hardware, 405 Briggs Ave.; Matuska, Frank - shoemaker; Minneapolis and Northern Elevator Co. - H.B. Newcomb, agent; Myers and Myers (Jeff M. and Joel) - attorneys; Nelson, Christian E. - general store; Neste, Ole E. - restaurant, 111-4th St. W.; Northwestern Telephone Exchange co. - Edward Code, manager; Ostboe, Peter J. - photographer, 104-4th St. W.; Park River City Electric Light and Water Works - R.G. Wieland, manager; Park River Furniture - George E. Towle, president, George A. Rorke, sec-treas.; Park River Public Library - Bertha Martin, librarian; Park River Roller Mills - Honey Brothers; Pederson, Ole - farm implements; Pomranke, Herman A. - ice dealer; Pondera Mining and Development Co. - R.C. Reinertsen, president; Robertson Lumber Company - H.N. Johnson, Agt.; St. Anthony and Dakota Elevator Co. - J.H. Fulton, agent; Schram, John M. - dentist; Schufletowski, Matthew - restaurant; Skala, M.E. and Co. (Mary E. Skala, John Novotny) - harness; Smith, Harry - fuel and dray; Smith-Peterson, Erasmus - lawyer; Soll, Sander - meats, 324 Briggs Ave.; Stair-McConville Co. - Arthur McConville, president, J.H. Stair, vice president and treasurer, B.L. Crowe, secretary - loans; Standard Oil Co. - Cass Gates, agent; Stoltze, Fred H. - Peter Peterson, agent-lumber; Thornberg, Ernest - jeweler; Thorson, Ole J. - grocer; Towle, David E. - farm implements; Towle, George E. - cashier, First National Bank; VanDyke, William B. - woodworker; Walsh County Republican - C.C. Doty, publisher, 8-page weekly, issued every Thursday, circulation 800, subscription price - \$1.00; Walstrom, F. and Co. (Fredrick Walstrom, Stewart Cairncross) - general store, 401 Briggs Ave.; Waugh, Thomas F. - physician; Weber, Mrs. Bessie - milliner; Weber, William S. - railroad, telegraph and express agent; Westerlund, Knute - tailor and upholsterer; Wylie, John - blacksmith; Young, George W. - lawyer, real estate, loans and collections.

May 25, 1906 - the Birder Building was listed for rent.

R.M. Johnston was the manager of the Liberty Lumber Company, 106-5th St. E.

Ed Code improved the interior of his building, 424 Briggs.

The Pantorium, cleaning and pressing, was located in the Aamoth building.

In June, 1906, J.J. Irwin's Confectionery ad included ice cream and a new Coca-Cola drink.

Dr. Waugh, physician and surgeon, had his office over the Dunn Drug.

Dr. G.O. Lee, dentist, had his office in the Union Block above J.J. Irwin's Store (Thorson Building), 415 Briggs Ave.

Dr. Louise V. Seiders, osteopath, set up a practice in Park River.

G.E. Towle and Mayor Dougherty of the Richardson Shock and Hay Loader Company have applied for a patent on a new style hay rack, one which will dump.

Ted Johnson who had been a barber here, returned to Owatonna, Minnesota.

The upstairs over Hall and Brandt's store is for rent.

Kimball and Newcomb have redone the interior of their billiard room and bowling alley.

Mrs. J.P. Birder is continuing to operate the real estate business after her husband's death. Mr. Birder was killed in a train accident on July 4, 1904, near Chicago.

Fred Woodard from Hampden has opened a Tonsorial parlor in the Code Building toward the rear, 105-5th St. E.

The postoffice is to be moved to the Thomas Catherwood building July 1, 1906. It is now occupied by a jewelry store.

H.N. Johnson resigned as manager of the Robertson Lumber Company. He will sell real estate and insurance in an office above the postoffice.

The Eide Clothing Company will open a new store in the Birder Building where the Minneapolis Store was operated.

Mrs. W.S. Weber is continuing in the millinery business. Mr. Weber will be the depot agent in Grand Forks.

John Anandel is a new barber in town.

Mayor J.J. Dougherty moved his office to the first floor of the building formerly occupied by the postoffice, 321 Briggs Ave.

Jenson and Son have removed their stock of groceries and furnishings from their building south of the new Gazette building to the Thompson Block recently occupied by S.K. Bolstad. They will use the entire first floor and will add dry goods and a clothing department. The partnership has been enlarged to include T.T. Thompson - it is now Thompson, Jenson and Son, 419 Briggs Ave.

July 30, 1906 - The announcement was made that on Wednesday of last week J.S. Brown became the owner of the bakery and confectionery owned by George Armstrong next door to the Windsor Hotel, the City Bakery.

Ole Arneson who has had a fruit store next to the Bank of Park River sold his business and building to R.C. Reinertson and Son, Ralph O.



Great Northern Depot - at turn of century.



Millinery Shop of early days.

November 30, 1906 - Mrs. W.S. Weber announced her "going out of business sale."

T.M. Facey - musical instruments - was over Walstrom's Store.

November 30, 1906 - Eide Clothing Company announced his "going out of business sale."

Thomas Catherwood sold his jewelry store, stock and fixtures to John Aamoth.

J.E. Ogle replaced W.S. Weber as depot agent. The Webers moved to Grand Forks.

Lyman Brandt was the postmaster in 1906.

W.T. Fallis, tailor, announced he was going out of business on April 1, 1907.

January, 1907, O.C. Flotner and Odd Eide have packed up the remaining stock of the Eide Clothing Company and shipped it to Fertile, Minnesota, to open a store there.

January 1, 1907 - T.T. Thompson sold his interest in his general store and confectionery to Jenson and Jenson, 419 Briggs Ave.

Sam Holland has the agency for the Cameron auto.

In early January, 1907, there was poor to no train service which almost crippled the Hannah line because of the snow storm. There was an extreme shortage of coal and supplies. The local power plant ran out of fuel. After eight days the first train reached Park River. Everyone in town was practically out of fuel and one solitary car of coal arrived. Agent McGraw was surrounded by people demanding a few hundred pounds. The J.S. Bakery was closed for the lack of fuel. The Eide stock supplies were still in Park River as the railroad would not accept shipments. The school was closed because of the lack of fuel. On February 5, 1907 two carloads of coal arrived.

February 15, 1907 - Ralph O. Reinertson and Company purchased the Park River Bakery, 410 Briggs Ave., from Joe Little. Joe Little went to Spokane to relocate his family.

March, 1907 - O.E. Towle and Loftus also made harness.

March, 1907 - The Robertson Lumber Company manager was Charles E. Potts.

The Great Northern ad in March, 1907 was that \$25.00 buys a one-way ticket to Montana, Idaho, Washington, Oregon, British Columbia and California.

March 29, 1907 - W.T. Fallis sold out his tailoring business to James M. Rea and J.D. McDonald.

April 1, 1907 - Theo Johnson bought the barber shop from Harry Hulbert in Wick's Pool Room. Hulbert took over the barber shop in the Windsor Hotel. Hulbert also disposed of his interest in the pool room to Enok Wick who became the sole owner.

W.T. Fallis was in the building of Thornberg's jewelry and will continue in the same location with the new owners.

April 1, 1907 - Erwin R. Brandt bought the dray and wood yard from Harry Smith.

1907 - Nels Marifjeren bought out Mr. Overbye. Marifjeren now sole owner of hardware store, 405 Briggs Ave. So.

May, 1907 - the Barbershops in the City were reduced to two. Fred Woodard bought out Harry Hulbert in the Windsor Hotel. Mr. Hulbert retired. Joe Masloski is now working in Ted Johnson's. He had held down the first chair in Hulbert's.

May, 1907 - Milton Code went to Fargo where he has accepted a position with Northwestern Bell.

A. Bannerman is the agent for the Liberty Lumber Company, 106-5th St. E.

Honey Brothers sold the Park River Roller Mills to J.A. Dunn and J.D. Robertson.

May 31, 1907 - John Aamoth moved his jewelry stock from the Postoffice Building to Reinertson's Store, 410 Briggs Ave., having rented one half of it for his business.



O.A. Trovatten - 111 5th Street West.

Dealer in farm machinery, Milwaukee binders and mowers, Minneapolis threshers, bicycles and sewing machines.

June, 1907 - George E. Peck, former agent at Clyde, started as the Great Northern Agent in Park River. A.B. Pittendragh went to Lakota as Agent.

August, 1907 - The Ideal Cafe in the Union Block opened, 417 Briggs Ave., Langseth and Reinertson. A first-class bakery is run in connection. In August, 1907, the partnership was dissolved—Langseth bought out Reinertson and became the sole proprietor of the cafe and bakery.

August 19, 1907 - Tom Catherwood and Sam Holland patented a timer for a gasoline motor.

September, 1907 - Property transfer - Atlas Lumber Company to Liberty Lumber, Lots 1 to 8 inclusive, Block 22-\$6,000.

September, 1907 - The Windsor Hotel has been rented by McEwan and Dougherty to Mr. Messenger of Milton. The place is undergoing thorough renovation and overhauling.

September, 1907 - Liberty Lumber Company, 106-5th St. E., bought out the Atlas Lumber Yard. Stock has been turned over to the new proprietors by Agent Blycker. This reduces the number of lumber yards here to two, who ought to have excellent field now. Three were undoubtedly too many.

Landlord Frank Hughes closed the dining room at the Windsor Hotel but is still running the rooming section. He is moving to Glasgow to start a rooming house there.

October, 1907 - The Swenson Drug sold out to C.N. Tabor, proprietor of a new store in Lankin. Everything is to be moved this week. Carl V. Swenson has no plans for the future.

November, 1907 - Dr. and Mrs. H.S. Schancke from Portland formed a partnership with Dr. Halldorson. The quarters are over the Hamre Drug.

March, 1908 - Dr. A.C. Agern, dentist, took over J.M. Schram's practice. His office was upstairs in the Hall and Brandt building.

March 13, 1908 - Thomas Catherwood left Park River on business to Eastern Auto Manufacturing to get orders for the Sam Holland timers.

March, 1908 - Gates Leedham bought out the Erwin Brandt drayline.

April, 1908 - The Jewel Pantorium was operated by W. and A. Wilde.

H.W. Sims of Inkster has rented a building in Park River, north of the Gazette-News, to sell cars from.

On May 8, 1908, Editor Susan of The Republican died. The Republican was to be published until it was sold. W.A. Young sold one-half interest in The Republican to Packard and leased him the other one-half.

May, 1908 - Dentist Agern has moved his office from the Walstrom Building to the Hall and Brandt Building.

In June, 1908 the listing was for the Towle Implement instead of Towle and Loftus.

June, 1908 - Ted Johnson sold the barbershop to Joe Masloski. Mr. Johnson decided to dispose of his business and return to Wisconsin for the summer with his father in poor health. Joe is no stranger--You are assured of continued good treatment and first class work.

June, 1908 - Dr. G.O. Lee has his office in the Union Block over J.J. Irwin's Store, the north one-half of the Union Block

June, 1908 - Mrs. W.S. Weber has started her "going out of business sale."

June 28, 1908 - Thomas Johnson has razed his building located on Lots 16 and 17, Block 10, Original Townsite and will put up a new structure this summer, 316-318 Briggs Ave.

September 25, 1908 - Joe J. Irwin sold his fruit and confectionery business to Ole J. Thorson. Mr. Thorson is making arrangements to remove the confectionery stock from his old stand to the Irwin Building, 415 Briggs Ave.

October, 1908 - Fred Walstrom and Stuart Cairncross - dissolution of partnership sale.

January, 1909 - The firm of Jenson and Son rented the Reinertson Building, 410 Briggs Ave., next to Hamre's Drug Store. They were in the Thompson Block.

May 14, 1909 - John Welleck sold his pool and billiard room in the Woodard Block to Joseph Dvorak and Frank Kubal. The new proprietors will continue in the same business. (The building is located at 421 Briggs Avenue).

July, 1909 - Dr. P. Dahl, M.D. is located over Marifjeren's Hardware Store.



Main Street looking south - 1909.

John Aamoth occupied the building owned by the Honey Brothers - 413 Briggs Avenue South.

The Security Bank building - 411 Briggs Avenue South - was started to be constructed.

J.J. Dougherty had shipped in four Ford autos, two runabouts and two touring cars.

August, 1909 - Dr. Halldorsson and Dr. Schancke, physicians and surgeons, were located over Thornberg's Jewelry.

Dr. Waugh and Dr. Sandven were located over Anderson's Drug.

Dr. G.O. Lee, Dentist, was located over J.J. Irwin's Fruit Store in the Union Block.

A. Bannerman is the manager of the Liberty Lumber Company - 106 East 5th Street.

Frank J. Prochaska is the editor of the Park River Gazette-News.

Holland and Towle are dealers of the Richmond cars.

Dr. Halldorson is listed as practicing alone - Schancke is not listed. August, 1909.

Dr. J.E. Heatherington, physician and surgeon, just arrived and will set up his practice in quarters over Hamre's Drug Store, August 13, 1909.

August 20, 1909 - Dr. Thomas F. Waugh who went to Saskatoon, Saskatchewan a few months ago will return to set up a practice over the Hamre Drug.

September 3, 1909 - Milton Code, Manager of the Telephone Company moved to Lankin.

September, 15, 1909 - Mrs. O.E. Hasle opened the Fashion Shop, 420 Briggs Ave.

September, 1909 - Lyman Brandt is the postmaster.

W. Thorn is manager of the Robertson Lumber Company.

October, 1909 - Milton Code merchandise was sold to John Aamoth.

Wallace Magoon, landlord of the Bellerica Hotel has sold to his brother Dave.

October 8, 1909 - C.D. Lord sold the livery barn and lot formerly owned by Anderson to D.E. Towle, 105-5th St. W.

November 8, 1909 - Farmers Security Bank opened, 411 Briggs Ave. S., Thomas Johnson, President; Joe Coulter, First Vice President; David Aitken, 2nd Vice President; C.R. Verry, cashier; Joe Reinertson, Assistant cashier.

November 20, 1909 - Sam Holland has secured the agency for Studebakers for all towns on this line and everything west.

November 26, 1909 - Park River Telephone, Inc. - John A. Dunn, T.F. Waugh, E. Thornberg and others.

Dr. O.S. Barke, dentist, is associated with Dr. Lee.

December 17, 1909 - J.J. McGraw is the new manager of the Cargill Elevator. S.F. Wilson resigned.

January, 1910 - James H. Rea, tailor.

February 11, 1910 - Messinger is the proprietor of the Windsor Hotel.

April 1, 1910 - O.P. Olson bought out the O.E. Hasle Hardware Store. He is leasing the building from Mr. Hasle, 418 Briggs Ave.

April, 1910 - Hall and Brandt have purchased the North one-half of the Security Block, 407 Briggs Ave.

April 1, 1910 - Alex Bannerman leaves the Liberty Lumber Company, 106-5th St. E., Louis Marden is the new manager.

Edith Christy is an instructor of music - in Walstrom Building.

April 22, 1910 - H.H. Hewitt purchased the John O. Hamre Drug Store. Will lease the fixtures and the building, 412 Briggs Ave.

May 6, 1910 - Thomas Johnson, Manager of the Park River Telephone Company disposed of his interest to S.K. Bartholomew of Drayton.

July 1, 1910 - Postmaster Brandt has leased the south half of the Union Block for the postoffice, 417 Briggs Ave. S.

July 8, 1910 Notice to Patrons: I will deliver ice on Monday and Saturday and either Wednesday or Thursday. I will make no special delivery for less than 25 cents. The ice house is open on Sundays 8:30 to 10:00 a.m. Delivery at night in case of sickness or death only. H.A. Pomranke.

July 22, 1910 - Notice to Light Users: Tuesday morning only from 8 to 12 noon. No lights next Wednesday and possibly Thursday. H.B. Lange, Superintendent.

J.I. Tallman is the manager of the Park River Livery Barn, 109-5th St. E.

August 19, 1910 - Ferier L'Alie purchased the property of R. McAllen and Sever Overbye. He expects to fix it into a recreation area.

August 19, 1910 - J.M. Smith took over the Windsor Hotel from W.C. Messinger.

September 3, 1910 - Park River new store to open. H. Mark will open a clothing store in the Code Building, 424 Briggs Ave. So.

September, 1910 - Dr. G.O. Lee, dentist, has sold his business to his assistant, Dr. O.S. Barke. Dr. Lee plans to locate in Minneapolis.

September 9, 1910 - Articles of Incorporation were issued to the Farmers Mutual Telephone Company of Park River - John A. Smith, John Lewis, N.G. Grovom and John Parke.

. The Alden Dairy raised the price of milk to 7 cents a quart.

September 16, 1910 - Angus White is the agent for the Imperial Elevator Company.

October 21, 1910 - Dr. George A. Plaas from Red Wing, Minnesota opened a dentist office over Hall and Brandt's Store. The office was formerly that of Dr. Agern.

November 4, 1910 - Loree and Palmer dissolve their partnership in the garage and repair shop. Loree is to continue in the business.

November, 1910 - Dr. George A. Plaas has moved into the Walstrom Building.

November, 1910 - Harry Mark's going out of business sale started. He closed his store in the Code Building, 424 Briggs Avenue South, in December, 1910.

November 18, 1910 - Mr. Jungck has moved his barber shop from the Woodard Block to the rear of the Code Building. The Pool Room which was located in the building was discontinued by Mumbleau. R.C. McAllen has rented the building, 421 Briggs Ave., for a restaurant and bakery.

November 25, 1910 - George A.B. Anderson operated the Park River Dray and Wood.

.Ralph Johnson replaced W.F. Thorn as manager of the Robertson Lumber Company.

November 25, 1910 - R.C. McAllen has rented the first floor of the Woodard Block, 421 Briggs Ave., and opened his bakery and restaurant. Frank Wilson is in charge of the bakery.

.Sam Holland will repair and retread your auto tires.

January, 1911 - The following local stores have agreed to close at 6:30 p.m.; Hall and Brandt, T.T. Thompson, Marifjeren and Overbye, Fred Walstrom, George Leedham, O.P. Olson, Finneseth's, Mrs. Hasle's Fashion Shop and the Park River Furniture Company.

January, 1911 - M.C. Moore will be the manager of the Robertson Lumber Company.

Business ads in the March, 1911 papers: Fred Walstrom, Hall and Brandt, Henry Anderson, Park River Furniture, Jensen and Son, Ole J. Pederson, Mrs. O.E. Hasle's Fashion Shop. T.T. Thompson, O.P. Olson, Towle Implement, E. Thornberg, H.H. Hewitt, Ole J. Thorson, A. Finneseth, Sander Soll, Leedham's Meat Market, Marifjeren and Overbye.

April 14, 1911 - McAllen Bakery is open in the Nykreim Building next to the Bellerica Hotel, 314 Briggs Ave.

April 28, 1911 - C.W. Benson bought the Park River Livery Company.

May 6, 1911 - G.T. Leedham sold his meat market to Gilbert Thompson. It will be known as the Table Supply Store, 422 Briggs Avenue South.

June 30, 1911 - John Lien went to work for the Thompson Market. He had been with J.B. Taintor several years ago.

July 14, 1911 - Dr. T.F. Waugh will locate in Canada.

July 14, 1911 - Towle Implement Company sold to George E. Eastwood who will take possession on January 1, 1912, 109 5th St. W

August 1, 1911 - James H. Rea sold his tailoring business to Sam Ebbson.

August 11, 1911 - R.C. Allen has leased the Catherwood Building and will move his bakery and restaurant to that site.

August 10, 1911 - Enok Wick sold his pool hall to James Laybourne, 103 4th Street West.

August 18, 1911 - Pete Gillespie has been working at the Knute Wick Blacksmith Shop.

August, 1911 - T.A. Hanson became manager of the Cargill Elevator.

August 13, 1911 - Gustav Brandt took over the partner's share - Helge Hall - in Hall and Brandt, 407 Briggs Ave. So.

September 1, 1911 - David Aitken bought out the coal business from Robertson Lumber

October 20, 1911 - George A.B. Anderson has sold his dray line and wood yard to Joseph Bednar.

October, 1911 - Dr. Halldorson's death is announced.

November, 1911 - Frank Hughes' death is announced. He was the proprietor of the Central in the 80's, the Arlington and the Windsor. The Arlington was located at 112 5th Street East.

November 3, 1911 - Dr. R.J. Church, physician and surgeon, has taken over Dr. Halldorson's practice. His office is over Thornberg's Jewelry Store, 414½ Briggs Avenue South.

In the fall of 1911 Alexander Bannerman became manager of the Robertson Lumber Company. He was also a partner in the Hardware store - Loftus, Bannerman and Booth, and manager of the Stoltze Lumber Company.

November 25, 1911 - Announcement was made of the opening of Sam Barney's Variety Store, 424 Briggs Ave.

December 1, 1911 - Paul Wilson has reopened the bowling alley.

December, 1911 - The Bellerica Hotel is offered for sale or rent by Wallace Magoon.

January, 1912 - S. Ebbson bought the building, 414 Briggs Ave. S., from Thornberg. Thornberg's Jewelry will still occupy the front part of the store. Ebbson will have his tailor shop in the back.

January, 1912 - John Aamoth is selling out.

February 1, 1912 - Ole Neste bought out the Gilbert Thompson meat market, 422 Briggs Avenue South.

February 18, 1912 - C.R. Verry has the Ford Agency.

February, 1912 - T.T. Thompson sold his business to Joe and John Kowalski, 419 Briggs Ave. S.

March 1, 1912 - Mrs. Mary Bannerman has taken over the Fashion Shop from Mrs. E.E. Hasle, 420 Briggs Ave.

March 5, 1912 - George Eastwood has taken over the Towle Implement, 115-5th St. W.

March 1, 1912 - Marifjeren has taken over Overbye's share of the business and building.

In March, 1912, the officers for the Bank of Park River were: C.D. Lord, president; W.S. Smith, vice president; H.D. Whitefield, cashier; R.J. Holmes, assistant cashier and F.C. Lord, assistant cashier.

.Nels O. Sandven, MD, had his office over Anderson's Drug.

.O.S. Barke, dentist, had his office over Thorson's Store (Union Block).

April 5, 1912 - Skala-Verry Land Company was formed.

.The Hewitt Drug Store is in business, 412 Briggs Ave. S.

April 1, 1912 - Robert Dilworth took over the co-op delivery wagon from Erwin Brandt.

Ads in the July, 1912 paper includes Eastwood and Crosby Implement Company and Bannerman's Ladies Furnishings.

Announcement was made on August 30, 1912, that the light plant would be running all night, just for the busy season.

August 30, 1912 - Enok Wick has rented the Woodard Building, 421 Briggs Ave. Bowling alleys owned by Kimball and Newcomb will be installed in the building.



Market Day in Park River - June 5, 1912.

September 6, 1912 - Dentist Barke sold his practice to R.G. Richardson, DDS.

September, 1912 - H.A. Pomranke is still in the ice business, 108-6th St. W.

September, 1912 - William McEachern took over the Park River Telephone Company, effective January 1, 1913.

September, 1912 - A.W. Hall is the manager of the Liberty Lumber Company, 106-5th St. E.

October 4, 1912 - the L'Alie Park is closed to the public due to vandalism. The equipment will be sold.

October 18, 1912 - Jenson and Son will hold a public auction of their merchandise.

November 1, 1912 - Alfred Quill is operating the feed mill, 109 3rd Street West.

December 6, 1912 - Harry Longfellow's Livery and Feed Barn is located in the Eastwood and Crosby barns.

December 13, 1912 - Sims Auto Company of Grand Forks has leased the Loree Garage. Dave Kinsala and Clement Woods will be the operators.

January 1, 1913 - the Postoffice will start parcel post service today.

January 10, 1913 - the announcement was made that Park River would get a new County High School.

March 14, 1913 - Thomas Johnson is the agent for Rumely, 316-318 Briggs Ave.

March 28, 1913 - W.W. Thompson purchased the jewelry store from Thornberg, 414 Briggs Ave.

April 11, 1913 - Ben Everson has taken a position at the John Aamoth Store.

April, 1913 - There will be electric current furnished for daytime on Tuesdays as of May 13.

August, 1913 - Sam Holland has the J.I. Case dealership.

It is announced that J.J. Dougherty is to become the postmaster the first of the year.

August 29, 1913 - David Johnson has moved his undertaking parlor south of the furniture store where the Republican was recently printed, 505 Briggs Ave.

September, 1913 - Col. E. Smith-Peterson has a message from Dr. G.O. Lee who is now in El Paso, Texas.

October 7, 1913 - Dissolution of Partnership: Frank J. Skala and Charles R. Verry as Skala-Verry Land Company.

November, 1913 - Ed Gerdin is to reopen the Eagle Restaurant.

December 5, 1913 - the postoffice moved from the Union Block to Dougherty's office building located next to the Windsor Hotel, 417 to 321 Briggs Ave.

December 26, 1913 - Ira Blocker, Chiropractor, has his office in the Walstrom Block.

For the year 1914 the population of Park River is estimated at 1100. The City has 6 churches, 3 banks, 2 hotels, 4 grain elevators, a theatre, a public library, water works, electric lights, flour and grist mills. The Walsh County Agricultural and Training School, the first to be established in the state, is located here. A weekly newspaper - The Gazette-News is published. Land is worth \$35.00 to \$50.00 per acre.

Business places listed for that time were:

Aamoth, John, Jeweler; Aitken, David - farm implements; Alden Dairy - Samuel Currie; Anderson, Henry - drugs; Bank of Park River - C.D. Lord, president; Bannerman, Mrs. Mary - milliner; Birder, Jacob V. - lawyer; Birder, Millie A. - real estate; Blocher, Ira - chiropractor; Brandt, Gustav - clothing; Bredeng, John O. - shoemaker; Cameron, Stephen A. - blacksmith; Cargill Elevator - Thomas A. Hanson, agent; Catherwood, Thomas A. - blacksmith; Church, Richard J. - physician; Clemetson, James - restaurant; Clemetson and Peterson (Henry Clemetson and Elmer Peterson) - restaurant; Eastwood and Crosby (George E. Eastwood and Howard Z. Crosby) - farm implements; Ebbson, Samuel - tailor; Elliott, E. Wilson - veterinary surgeon; Farmers Elevator Company - Clark S. Eaton, agt.; Farmer Mutual Telephone Co. - John A. Smith, president, Wm. McEachern, manager; Farmers Security Bank - Thomas Johnson, President, W.A. Lilyquist, cashier. Capital, \$20,000; Farup, Karl J. - insurance agent; Finneseth, Anna - general store; First National Bank - D.H. Beecher, president, K.J. Farup, cashier. Capital, \$25,000.



Main Street of Park River about 1913 - looking south.

Gazette News - Frank J. Prochaska, publisher; Grand Theatre, John Aamoth, proprietor, moving pictures; Hall and Nelson (Andrew Hall and Nels C. Nelson) - livery; Hewitt, Harry H. - drugs, 412 Briggs Ave.; Holland, Samuel - machinery; Holmes, Robert J. - insurance agent; Hotel Bellerica - Wallace Magoon, proprietor; Imperial Elevator - Angus White, agent; Johnson, Thomas - farm implements; Jungck, Charles B. - barber, 103 East 5th Street; Kowalski Brothers (John M. and Joseph C.) - general store, 419 Briggs Ave.; Laybourn, James - billiards; Liberty Lumber Company - Ammon W. Holt, agt.; Lilyquist, W.A. - insurance agent; Longfellow, Harry - livery; McAllen, Robert C. - baker; McEwan and Dougherty (George K. McEwan and James J. Dougherty) - real estate; Marifjeren, Nels - hardware, 405 Briggs Ave.; Masloski, Joseph - barber; Neste, Ole E. - meats, 422 Briggs Ave.; Olson, O.P. - hardware, 418 Briggs Ave.; Ostboe, Peter J. - photographer, 104-4th St. W.; Park River Furniture Company - G.E. Towle, president, David Johnson, Sec'y-Treas.-Mgr.; Park River Milling Company - John A. Dunn, president and manager, James D. Robertson, Sec.-Treas. - flour mill, Hwy 17; Park River Opera House - Henry Anderson, mgr.; Park River Public Library - Runa Eyolfson, librarian; Peck, George E. - R.R. Express and Telegraph; Pengilly, James - feed mill; Plaas, George A. - dentist; Richardson, Robert G. - dentist; Robertson Lumber Company - William Moore, agt.; Sandven, Nels O. - physician; Sims Auto Company - David Kinsala, manager; Smith-Peterson, Erasmus - lawyer; Thompson, William W. - jeweler; Thorson, Ole J. - grocer; Walstrom, Fred - general store - The Big Store; Wick, Enok - bowling alley; Windsor Hotel - James M. Smith, proprietor; The Variety Store - S. Barney, proprietor; Young, George W., Lawyer; Win S. Mitchel, Editor and proprietor of the Park River Herald. Subscription rate is \$1.50 per year, strictly in advance; Wick, Knut - blacksmithing and repairing.

February 6, 1914 - Frank Fay has taken over as manager of the Liberty Lumber Yard. He succeeds Holt, 106 5th St. E.

February, 1914 - the total amount of light billings for the month was \$1,025.95.

April, 1914 - John Aamoth announced he is selling out and leaving Park River. He went to Conway.

April 10, 1914 - J. Morley Wyard, former editor of the Gazette, died. He was founder of the Park River Witness and owner of the Gazette. The Witness was consolidated with the Gazette and he was editor for ten years. After the fire of 1901 he disposed of the list of subscribers to Frank Prochaska of the new Gazette-News.

April, 1914 - W.A. Young is listed as a commercial printer.

Magoon has leased the Bellerica Hotel to Ed Gerdin for three years.

April 20, 1914 - Charles Moore opened The New Confectionery Store, 410 Briggs Ave. So.

April 17, 1914 - H.H. Hewitt is listed as the Ford Dealer.

May 6, 1914 - Dave Kinsala is the manager of Sims Auto Company, 107-4th St. W.

June 5, 1914 - David Mills and David Kinsala were partners in the sale of The Silent Grey Fellow, a motorcycle.

June 19, 1914 - H.H. Hewitt sold his drug store to Otto, 412 Briggs Ave. S.

June 26, 1914 - I.P. Edwards purchased from Vivian Birder the buildings north of The Gazette News office and is tearing them down, 301 Briggs Avenue North.

July 24, 1914 - the Kowalski Brother ad was: "Groceries for Threshers - 10 percent discount bought in bulk and case lots on 30-day cash basis."

August, 1914 - The City Dray Line is operated by Cass Gates.

August 14, 1914 - The Park River Cash Market will open for business, Frank Glaser, operator.

The J.I. Case Building is for sale. Sam Holland, 314 Code Avenue South.

August 28, 1914 - My restaurant is for rent on liberal terms from September 1. P.A. Nykreim, 314 Briggs Avenue South. Henry Clemetson and Elmer Peterson took over.

August 20, 1914 - The Park River Herald was established; Win S. Mitchell editor and proprietor. Subscription rate: 1.50 per year strictly in advance.

August, 1914 - Eastwood and Crosby - machinery dealers.

September 10, 1914 - Farmers Security Bank - P.S. Hilleboe, cashier; C.P. O'Brien, asst. cashier.

October 30, 1914 - Bryant and Company, a new ladies furnishings store is established. Formal opening was the 27th of November, 1914. Union Block, 417 Briggs Avenue South.

Thomas F. Meagher has coal for sale.

November 9, 1914 - The Park River Livery, 109-5th St. E., D.F. Miller proprietor, went up in flames. Miller was sweeping on the first floor level when the odor of smoke got his attention. A quick survey revealed a column of smoke curling downward from the floor above. Hastily mounting the ladder, he found the surface of the hay over the entire loft a seething mass of flames and smoke. Miller at once moved the horses and rigs to David Aitkin's barn located a block north.

November 27, 1914 - Hewitt and Johnson have everything ready for flooding an ice rink.

January, 1915 - Henry C. Otto is operating a drug store at 412 Briggs Ave. So.

January 15, 1915 - John Lien went to work for Glazer. He had been at Neste's Meats.

January 15, 1915 - Eastwood became the sole owner of the farm implement business. He had been in partnership with Howard Z. Crosby.

January 22, 1915 - George Gaylord purchased half interest in Charles Moore's Confectionery, 410 Briggs, effective February 1. He resigned as barber in Masloski's Barber Shop.

January 29, 1915 - Barney's Variety Store is going through bankruptcy, 424 Briggs Ave. S.

February 5, 1915 - the City Light Plant has installed a new dynamo which will allow for day runs and electric motors.

February 4, 1915 - I will make free delivery for the following business places daily: Walstrom's, Finneseth's, Kowalski Brother, Ole Neste, Frank Glazer and the Park River Mill. Four deliveries each day, 8:45, 10, 2 (except meat market) and 4. Mill delivery will be made once at 2:30.

Robert Dilworth

February 5, 1915 - Mrs. Ole Hasle returned to the Ladies Millinery Shop - she bought out Mrs. Mary Bannerman, 420 Briggs Avenue South.

February 12, 1915 - Joe Kowalski has taken over full ownership of the Kowalski Store.

February 12, 1915 - Enok Wick who has conducted his bowling alleys and lunch business in the Woodard Block has moved to the Birder Building, two doors south of the Gazette. He purchased two new pool tables. There will be no cards or bowling, 313 Briggs.

February 19, 1915 - Jack Erovick and Will McEachern formed a partnership, the Park River Auto Livery and will conduct an automobile livery business when the season opens. They have rented the Hasle Building south of the City Hall.

February 19, 1915 - Ole Neste sold his grocery business to Joe Kowalski. He will operate the meat market only.

February 25, 1915 - George E. Gaylord has purchased one-half interest in Moore's Confectionery and News Stand. It will be known as Moore and Gaylord Confectionery, 410 Briggs Ave.

March 4, 1915 - There will be an auction sale of the D.F. Miller business and personal property. He is leaving town. The City has rented the property formerly occupied by Millers Livery Barn to erect a line of hitching posts.

March, 1915 - John O. Bredeng is in the shoe repair business.

March, 1915 - Mahn's Sweet Shop is open, 421 Briggs Ave. They have ice cream, home made candy, soda fountain and fruits.

March 4, 1915 - The Hewitt Auto Company is selling Ford and Overland cars.

March 11, 1915 - The F.R. Brandt lot, first door north of O.P. Olson's Hardware Store, will have a theatre built on it. The Lyric is to be built during the summer, 416 Briggs S.

March 25, 1915 - H. Longfellow Livery has added first class auto to his livery business.

March 26, 1915 - Will McEachern and Fred Walstrom have purchased the lot on which a theatre was built, 416 Briggs Ave.

March, 1915 - John Aamoth has sold his moving picture equipment and building to A.I. Hanson.

March, 1915 - Frank Wade is a shoe cobbler in the Eastwood Building, corner Code and 5th St. W.

April 1, 1915 - Joseph C. Kowalski is alone in the Quality Cash Store. His brother, John, has gone to Adrian, MN.

.Si Perkins and H.J. Bohn - decorating, house and sign. Leave orders at Olson's Hardware.

.Park River Auto Livery - McEachern and Erovick.

April 9, 1915 - It was announced that all day light service is planned by the City Council.

April 29, 1915 - Alois Kotaska has taken over the ice business from H. Pomranke.

.William Cost - auto livery - leave orders at Hewitt Auto Company office.

May 13, 1915 - Paul J. Stegner of Souris has leased the Windsor Hotel for five years as of August 15, 1915 as announced by J.J. Dougherty. J.A. Smith has had the Hotel.

May, 1915 - the Barney Bankruptcy Sale was held. C.F. Taylor has taken over the Variety Store business in the Code Building, 424 Briggs Ave.

May 28, 1915 - Frank F. Spornitz has purchased from Mrs. Birder the building and two lots just north of the Bellerica Hotel, 306-308 Briggs Ave. S.

June 1, 1915 - A.C. Thompson is editor of the Park River Herald.

June 1, 1915 - it was announced that Dr. Sandven will leave Park River.

.John Aamoth is leaving Park River.

June 19, 1915 - C.F. Taylor will open Taylor's Variety Store in Code Building, 424 Briggs Ave.

July, 1915 - Frank Spornitz has a new sign in front of his harness shop, 306 Briggs Ave.

July 8, 1915 - The Lyric - McEachern and Walstrom - opened. Pictures are as near to perfection as possible.

November 18, 1915 - Kowalski Brothers are again listed as a partnership.

August 15, 1915 - Frank Glazer has decided to go out of the retail meat business and open a wholesale provisions house. He has rented the old Sander Soll meat market, entrance to the side of the Soll Building, 103-4th St. E.

August 21, 1915 - Frank Glazer died. He was the proprietor of the Cash Meat and Provisions Market.

August 27, 1915 - T.F. Meagher and William Shepherd formed a partnership for coal business. Their office was at the rear of Finneseth's Store, 104-4th Street E.

September, 1915 - Dr. F.E. Weed of Lankin took over the practice of Dr. Richard Church. Dr. Church died August 20, 1915.

September 3, 1915 - J.A. Brandel of Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, has purchased Glazer's Meat Market. John Lien will remain as the meat man. The store will be known as Westside Meat Market.

September 30, 1915 - Knut Wick is listed as a blacksmith.

October 8, 1915 - Dr. J.O.D. Engesather, physician and surgeon, had his office upstairs over Anderson's Drug. He had been located over Finneseth's Store.

October 15, 1915 - the Grand Theatre will be closing. Mr. Hanson will manage the Lyric.

November, 1915 - the Public School has leased the Hanson rink and equipment for six months.

November 12, 1915 - The oldest elevator in Park River is being torn down and will be shipped to Marston. It was owned by the Minneapolis and Northern Elevator Company, H.B. Newcomb, agt., for many years. Lybeck Grain Company purchased it a year ago (1914) from the Pisek Grain Company, Lars Hylden, agent.

December 24, 1915 - Mrs. Clemetson is operating the Eagle Restaurant, 314 Briggs Ave.

December 24, 1915 - Frank Lundmark is operating the Home Bakery.

In 1916 it was estimated that the population was 1200. Active churches were Baptist, Catholic, Episcopal, Lutheran, Methodist and Presbyterian. There were 3 banks, 2 hotels, 3 grain elevators, a theatre, a public library, two weekly newspapers: Gazette-News and the Herald. Land in the area is worth \$35 to \$75 per acre. Some of the businesses in operation at the onset of the year were:

Aitken, David - farm implements, 110-4th St. E.; Anderson, Henry - drugs, 409 Briggs Ave. S.; Bank of Park River (Capital \$30,000) - C.D. Lord, president; Birder, Jacob V. - loans; Birder, Minnie A. - real estate; Blocher, Ira - Chiropractor, Walstrom Bldg.; Brandel, John A. - meats; Brandt, Gustav - clothing, 407 Briggs Ave. S.; Bredeng, John O. - shoemaker; Bryant and Co. (Harriet and Ezra C. Bryant) - millinery, Union Building, 417 Briggs Ave. S.; Cameron, Stephen A. - blacksmith, 106-5th Street West; Cargill Elevator Co. - Thomas A. Hanson, agt.; Catherwood, Thomas A. - blacksmith, 107-4th St. W.; Clemetson, Henry N. - restaurant, 314 Briggs Ave. S.

Eastwood, George E. - farm implements; Ebbsen, Sam - tailor, 414 Briggs Ave. S.; Elliott, E. Wilson - veterinary surgeon; Engesather, J.D. - physician; Farmers Elevator - Clark S. Eaton, agent; Farmers Mutual Telephone Company - J.A. Smith, president; William McEachern, manager; Farmers Security Bank (Capital \$20,000) - Thomas Johnson, president; Farup, Karl J. - insurance agent; Finneseth, Anna - general store; First National Bank (Capital \$25,000) - Karl J. Farup, president; Gazette-News - Frank J. Prochaska, publisher; Hasle, Mrs. Sarah - milliner; Hilleboe, Peter S. - insurance agent; Holland, Sam - machinery; Holmes, Robert J. - insurance agent; Hotel Bellerica - Edward Gerden, manager; Imperial Elevator - Angus White, agent; Johnson, Thomas - farm implements; Jungck, Charles B. - barber; Kohnen, John J. - auctioneer; Kowalski Brothers (John M. and Joseph C.) - general merchandise. Potatoes in car lots; Laybourne, James M. - billiards; Liberty Lumber Company - Frank E. Fay, agent; Longfellow, Harry - livery; Lord, C.D. - insurance agent; Lundmark, Frank - baker; Lyric Theatre - Walstrom and McEachern - moving pictures;

McAllen, Robert C. - Optician; McEssy, Edward - physician; Mahn, Edward J. - confectionery; Marifjeren, Nels - hardware; Masloski, Joseph - barber; Moore and Gaylord (Charles Moore, George E. Gaylord) - confectionery, 410 Briggs; Neste, Ole L. -

meats, 422 Briggs Ave. S.; Olson, Ole P. - hardware, 418 Briggs; Ostboe, Peter J. - photographer; Otto, Henry C. - drugs, 412 Briggs Ave. S.; Park River Furniture - K.J. Farup, president, David Johnson, Sec-Treas-Mgr.; Park River Herald, The - Albert C. Thompson, pub. (took over from Win S. Mitchell in December, 1915); Park River Milling Company - John A. Dunn, James D. Robertson; Park River Opera House - H.C. Otto, manager; Park River Public Library - Runa Eyolfson, librarian; Park River Telephone Company - William McEachern, manager; Pengilly, James - feed mill; Plaas, George A. - dentist; Richardson, Robert G. - dentist; Robertson Lumber Co. - Melvin C. Moore, agent; Sims Auto Co., 107-4th St. W. - David Kinsala, manager; Smith-Peterson, Erasmus - lawyer; Spornitz, Frank F. - harness, 306 Briggs Ave. S.;

Taylor, Clifford F. - notions; Thompson, William W. - jeweler; Thorson, Ole J. - grocer, 415 Briggs; Walstrom, Fred - general store; Weed, Frank E. - physician; Wellek, John - wagonmaker; Wick, Enok - billiards; Wick, Knut - blacksmith; Windsor Hotel - Paul Stegner, proprietor; Young, George W. - lawyer.

January 7, 1916 - E.B. Rott is operating the Park River Ice Company.

January 15, 1916 - G.O.B. Anderson sold his dray and wood business to Alois Kotaska.

January 20, 1916 - John Thorvilson has purchased the Park River Meat Market.

February 3, 1916 - The City of Park River is considering all day electrical service; also sewers.

February 3, 1916 - The Liberty Lumber Company sold the Park River Yard to Thompson Yards, Inc. L.V. LaTourselle is to manage the yard, 106-5th St. E.

March 9, 1916 - The Park River Land and Loan Company has been formed. Stockholders are: C.D. Lord, K.J. Farup and J.J. Dougherty; W.S. Wemple is to be manager of the newly formed company. The office will be in the building adjoining Wick's Pool Room.

.There was damage to the wall between the bowling alley and pool room when a fire struck Enok Wick's premises, 313 Briggs.

March 10, 1916 - James Laybourne has purchased a building from Thomas Catherwood that houses Lundmark's Bakery. Present occupants are to remain.

March 16, 1916 - Clarke Farup has an ad for Ford cars.

March 17, 1916 - Moore and Gaylord have bought the building they have occupied for the past couple of years. (410 Briggs Avenue South). They have installed a new popcorn machine and peanut roaster.

March 17, 1916 - Mrs. Ole Hasle has closed her millinery store. The building has been sold to Hugh Wenzel who is going to open a barber shop, 408 Briggs Ave.

March 22, 1916 - The City voted for the sewer project to proceed -148-63. Electricity will be 8 cents per KWH. Coal is 35 cents per ton.

March 30, 1916 - It was announced that the Kowalski Brothers will sell out, 419 Briggs Ave. S.

April 6, 1916 - Dr. N.O. Sandven will return to Park River and resume his medical practice. He will buy out Dr. McEssy.

April 14, 1916 - Joe Masloski has set up a barber shop in Laybourne's pool hall.

April 20, 1916 - W.A. Young had an ad for painting and decorating.

April 21, 1916 - the Park River Land and Loan Company leased the south half space from Wenzel (Masloski Building, 408 Briggs Avenue South).

May 5, 1916 - Dr. Engesather left Park River for Brocket.

May 9, 1916 - The City of Park River contracted to put sewer in

along Briggs Avenue to the river at Sander Soll's.

May 11, 1916 - Hotel Bellerica has been fixed up by the new owner, L'Alier.

.J.W. Riggles has bought the whole interest in the Park River Ice Company.

June 3, 1916 - Elmer Landsborough and John Gergen bought out Mahn's Sweet Shop from E.J. Mahn. After remodeling they plan to open about June 15, 421 Briggs Ave. S.

.Ed Gerdin is still the landlord of the Bellerica. The name has been changed to the Park River Hotel, 310-312 Briggs Ave. S.

July 20, 1916 - the Soll Brothers are to open a modern meat market in the former Sander Soll Meat Market building, 324 Briggs. The building now houses the Park River Herald which will move to a new location.

July 7, 1916 - Bernard Everson has purchased an interest in the store from Joe Kowalski. The store will be known as Kowalski and Everson. Everson lives upstairs in the Thompson Block, 419 Briggs Ave.

July, 1916 - the death of Enok Wick was announced. Knut Wick purchased the pool hall and bowling alley from the estate.

July 27, 1916 - The Moore Auto Company of Grand Forks will open a branch office in Park River for Ford cars. Clarke Farup, who has been the Ford salesman here, will be the manager. The office will be in the old Grand Theatre Building, Mr. Farup has been working out of a building next to the Windsor Hotel.

August 1, 1916 - Moore Auto Company, Clarke Farup, local manager, has this ad: Runabout - \$346; Touring - \$360; Coupelet - \$505; Town Car - \$595; Sedan - \$645. All prices FOB Detroit.

August 11, 1916 - F.F. Spornitz has electrified his harness shop. He has an electric sewing machine, 306 Briggs Ave.

August, 1916 - the farmers want to add a flour mill to the Farmer Elevator.

August 24, 1916 - Clarke Farup and David Mills have bought out the Moore Auto Company branch here. They will sell and service Ford and Studebaker cars. They will operate as Mills-Farup Auto Company.

August, 1916 - Frank Wade is a shoe cobbler, 111-5th St. W.

September 1, 1916 - C.P. O'Brien has been elevated to head cashier at the Farmers Security Bank. P.S. Hilleboe has resigned.

September 29, 1916 - Harry Longfellow has auctioned off his equipment and left town.

.The John Thorvilson Meat Market has been closed since last Saturday. He has decided to quit business.

October 1, 1916 - Fred Hultstrand bought the photo studio from Pete J. Ostboe, 104-4th St. W.

November 9, 1916 - Dr. Marius Hanson has taken over the medical practice of Dr. Sandven. He will continue in the same office over Anderson's Drug.

December 21, 1916 - Landsborough and Gergen leased the building next to the Farmers Security Bank, 413 Briggs Ave. The new cafe will open as soon as they can get ready.

December, 1916 - Wick's Pool Room and Bowling Alley were sold to M.F. Kelleher.

December, 1916 - Charles Moore and G.E. Gaylord have dissolved partnership. Gaylord has taken over the Frank Lundmark bakery and cafe and Moore will continue in his business.

January, 1917 - George Gaylord has opened the City Bakery.

February, 1917 - Get your ice from J.W. Riggles. He has left the city but retains ownership of the ice business. E.J. Bergman will run the business.

February 8, 1917 - The Charles Moore and Son confectionery and ice cream parlor has been remodeled, 410 Briggs.

Landsborough & Gergen's

Store In

New Quarters

We have moved our store from the Woodward Block to the Plain building, and are now prepared to attend to the wants of the public better than ever.

Call and visit the store whether you need anything or not, you will be welcome just the same.

Full line of fruits, confectionery and cigars. Ice cream and all kinds of soda fountain drinks.

LANDSBOROUGH & GERGEN

Plain Building, Next Farmers Security Bank

Landsborough has moved to the Plain Building, 413 Briggs Avenue South.

March, 1917 - There were newspaper ads for both the Star Restaurant and Gaylord's Bakery.

April 20, 1917 - Sam Holland has sold his machine shop and garage to The Park River Auto and Machine Company, 314 Code Ave. Clarence Stark, Edward Pelton and Joseph Carlson, proprietors. Mr. Holland will move to Winner, MN.

April, 1917 - 3-TK Orchestra is playing every Wednesday night.

April 19, 1917 - Ed Gerdin has been in the Bellerica Hotel and Restaurant for about the past ten years. He has left town and moved to Minnesota.

April 27, 1917 - Joe Masloski has purchased the Hugo Wenzel Barber Shop in the Hasle Block, 408 Briggs Ave.

Wenzel had located in the Hasle Building since last fall.

May 8, 1917 - Fire gutted the Soll Meat Market this morning, 324 Briggs Ave.

May 17, 1917 - Notice. The Neste Meat Market is on a strictly cash basis. No meat or provisions to leave the store until they are paid for, 422 Briggs Ave.

May 24, 1917 - The Park River Hotel reopened, William Liesenfeld is the new manager. It is leased from L'Alie.

Notice in the paper June 21, 1917 - Well driller looking for wells to drill. Contact the Park River Mill. Four more wells are needed to get the well driller here from South Dakota.

June 22, 1917 - The Walsh County Farmers Press, Inc. was formed. Incorporators were: Frank Votava of Vesleyville; N.G. Grovom, Park River; Nelse R. Lee, Grafton; Christ Levang, Adams.

July 6, 1917 - Garfield Mauritsen from Shelly, MN, has taken a position at the Farmers Security Bank. He replaced R.C. Ekman as bookkeeper.

July 7, 1917 - It was announced that Elmer Landsborough has sold his one-half interest in Landsborough and Gergen to C.E. (Chike) O'Brien. The confectionery store will be known as O'Brien and Gergen, 413 Briggs Ave.

July 19, 1917 - the Midget Mill Building is completed. Pengilly has moved his feed store.

July 26, 1917 - The Soll Building which had the fire is being remodeled. The second floor of the building was removed. The Farmers Supply Company of Hoople is to open the meat market as a branch store, 324 Briggs Avenue South.

July 27, 1917 - The Farmers Elevator Company is rebuilding the coal sheds, 16' x 60', on concrete.

August 11, 1917 - The Walsh County Farmers Press is to buy out the Park River Gazette-News.

August 24, 1917 - J.N. Moller is to open a meat market in the Soll Building, 324 Briggs Ave., across the street from the Postoffice.

August, 1917 - there are no more ads for Dr. Plaas, dentist.

October 4, 1917 - Dr. W.J. Plunket, dentist, has set up a dental practice. His office is in the upstairs of the Walstrom Building.

October 1, 1917 - The City raised the light rate to 15 cents per KWH.

October 11, 1917 - The Light Plant will discontinue the day run until further notice due to the shortage of water.

October 19, 1917 - The Marifjeren Hardware has taken over the plumbing and tin business of N.J. Knutson. Mr. Knutson will be employed as tinner at the hardware store.

October 24, 1917 - Dr. E.W. McEssy, physician, has moved to Fargo.

October 26, 1917 - Martin Danielson has bought Steve A. Cameron's blacksmith shop, 106-5th St. W. Cameron has been in the same location since Park River came into being, moving in from Kensington.



City Hall - 1917

November 16, 1917 - Ida and Lawrence Finneseth became owners of the A. Finneseth Company.

November, 1917 - Emmett O'Brien bought out Chike's one-half interest in the O'Brien and Gergen Cafe, 413 Briggs Ave.

December 21, 1917 - Neste's Meat Market advertised a Treat for the Holiday - buffalo steaks and roasts. The animal was on display in front of the meat market today. The animal was killed but not dressed before shipping. This is the first buffalo in Park River so get your orders in for the cuts. It may be the last.

January, 1918 - The Park River Gazette-News was taken over by The Walsh County Farmers Press. It will be published as an NPL paper. Frank Prochaska will be the editor in charge.

January 17, 1918 - Wash ice for sale by H.A. Pomranke, 108-6th St. E.

January 19, 1918 - the light plant will close down at 11 and start up at 7, thus saving two hours.

January 24, 1918 - J.J. Dougherty has been appointed for another 4 years as postmaster.

January 24, 1918 - Business ads in the paper : Gergen and O'Brien; Farmers Elevator; First National Bank; Alden dairy; W.W. Thompson, jeweler; Bryant Company; Mills-Farup Auto; Anderson Drug; Hultstrand's Studio; David Aitken; Meagher and Shepherd; Park River Milling Co.; Finneseth's; O.J. Thorson; F. Walstrom; Otto Drug; S. Ebbesen; Robertson Lumber Company; Jungck's Barber Shop; Thompson Yard; O.B. Salvag, manager; Sim's Auto Company; Bank of Park River; Marifjerer Hardware; Kowalski and Everson; Windsor Hotel, Mrs. Laxdal, mgr.



Oscar Stromli delivering milk for Alden's Dairy.

February 8, 1918 - Community Flour and Grain Company organized. S. Curry, president; James Pengilly, vice-president; Alex M. Ford, secretary.

February, 1918 - Ole J. Pederson is now a mail carrier. He replaces Charles Harris on Route 2.

March 7, 1918 - Bob Dilworth has sold his delivery business to Arne Eyolfson. Dilworth will work in the Park River Furniture Store. Then on March 21, it was announced that George Anderson ended up buying the Robert Dilworth Delivery Service.

March 14, 1918 - Ole Groven has purchased the old Sam Holland Garage and Repair Shop, 314 Code Ave. E.O. Groven will assist in handling supplies and automobile repairs.

March 31, 1918 - Daylight time goes into effect until the last Sunday in October.

April 18, 1918 - Charles H. Fee has purchased Joe Kowalski's one-half interest in Kowalski and Everson. The store now will be known as Fee and Everson, 419 Briggs Avenue South.

May 3, 1918 - Mrs. Belle E. Phillips, manager of the Windsor Hotel the past few weeks has gone to Minneapolis. The lease of the Hotel was taken over by E.C. Harlow from Mrs. B.L. Laxdal.

May, 1918 - The Flour Mill is running the full 24 hours a day.

May 9, 1918 - The Bryant Company will hold a closing out sale starting May 11.

May, 1918 - Pete Gillespie has rented the Wick Blacksmith Shop. Knut Wick is in Philadelphia to work in the shipyards.

June 20, 1918 - Dr. C.I. Spannare, physician and surgeon, opened his office over the Walstrom Building. Dr. P.E. Shortt has gone into the office formerly occupied by Dr. Weed.

June 21, 1918 - The Lee Cafe is open for business in quarters formerly occupied by the Park River Bakery, 505 Briggs Ave.

July 4, 1918 - Restaurant for sale by P.A. Nykreim - 314 Briggs Avenue South. To be taken over September 1.

July 24, 1918 - M.A. Bacon who has been the manager of the Community Grain Elevator the past year, has left town.

August 8, 1918 - The light plant was in operation for a few hours in the afternoon to furnish power for the Lyric Theatre for a party for servicemen.

August 30, 1918 - M.C. Moore died. He came to Park River in 1910 to manage the Robertson Lumber Company. He then associated himself in the confectionery business with his father.



Billy Kern - Mailman on Route 1 and operated Cream Station.

September 6, 1918 - Mr. Kern moved his cream buying station to just north of the Windsor Hotel from across the street, 313 Briggs Avenue South.

September 20, 1918 - The Bryant Company, Miss Anna Cashin, manager, is located in the Young Block, just south of the First National Bank, 505 Briggs Avenue South.

September 26, 1918 - Advertisement: Lights in your home. Mayhew Electric Light Plant - A.C. Wakeford and Jack Erovick, 307 Briggs Avenue South.

September, 1918 - R.C. McAllen, eye glasses, who was located in the Plain Building plans to locate in Grand Forks. The Plain Building is 413 Briggs Ave. South.

September, 1918 - A millinery store is to open in the Young Block.

October 18, 1918 - E.C. Harlow has given up the lease for the Windsor Hotel. A.F. Lee who has been in the restaurant business here this past summer has taken over.

October 18, 1918 - Al J. Bethke has leased the Park River Hotel.

October 18, 1918 - Bryant and Company have moved their millinery shop in the Young Building to the building formerly operated by Lee's Cafe, 505 Briggs Ave. So.

October 20, 1918 - William Shepherd passed away. He has been associated with Shepherd and Meagher in the implement and coal business.

October 25, 1918 - Fee and Everson moved from the Thompson Building to the Union Building to space recently vacated by Bryant and Company. They moved from 419 Briggs Avenue South to 417.

October 26, 1918 - Lawyer E. Smith-Peterson died.

October, 1918 - W.A. Young is still in the decorating business.

November 7, 1918 - Bryant and Company has been moved from the Young Building to the restaurant building just south of O.P. Olson's Hardware, 420 Briggs Ave. So.

November 21, 1918 - Fred Woodard died in Minneapolis. He was a barber here for several years until 1906.

November 28, 1918 - C.F. Taylor still operated the Variety Store, 424 Briggs Ave.

December 19, 1918 - P.D. Briggs died at age 67. He came to Park River in 1884. Briggs Avenue is named after him. He started and ran a meat market. He left Park River in 1901 or 02. He was the brother-in-law of noted John D. Rockefeller. William Livingston had the farm east of Park River and P.D. Briggs ran it as long as Livingston owned it.

December 19, 1918 - Ad: Wash ice for sale - Pomranke, Kowalski and Co. (Joe Kowalski).

January 3, 1919 - the Thompson Building has been rented to be used for a gym, 419 Briggs Ave.

January 9, 1918 - Dr. F.E. Weed is to return to practice in Park River. His office is at the Otto Drug for the present time. He will have rooms over the Park River Bank.

January 25, 1919 - The Methodist Church burned.

February, 1919 - Charles Moore is still in business.

February 28, 1919 - Mills-Farup Auto Co. advertised the Hart-Par tractor for sale.

March 6, 1919 - George Houser is the new manager of Robertson Lumber Co.

March 14, 1919 - The Fashion Shop Millinery Store formerly Bryant and Co. is now owned by Mrs. F.C. Lord, 420 Briggs Ave.

March 14, 1919 - Dr. P.E. Shortt has moved to Adams to set up his medical practice.

March 13, 1919 - Charles Moore passed away at age 72. He came to Park River 6 years ago and has operated a confectionery store, 410 Briggs.



E.R. Porter's well rig in preparation to drill a deep well for the City of Park River - 1919. This picture is of the power house for Park River. E.R. Porter is the man second from the right. The others are unidentified.

March 20, 1919 - For Sale by P.A. Nykreim, restaurant occupied by Henry Clemetson.

March 28, 1919 - Sever Idsol is the agent for Insyde Tyres, 506 Briggs Avenue South.

March 28, 1919 - The Park River Motor Company is to build a new garage north of Spornitz Harness Shop. Holland's Machine shop and Garage, 314 Code Aveune, was torn down - a part of it was moved to the 100 Block on 5th Street West to the Towle Building near the livery stable.

April 17, 1919 - C.F. Taylor died at age 45. He had been in the Variety Store since the spring of 1915, 424 Briggs Avenue.

April 18, 1919 - Elmer Landsborough became the owner of J.N. Moller and Company Market.

The store will be known as "The Landsborough Market." Art Duff and John Lien will remain as employees, 324 Briggs Ave.

May, 1919 - The Park River Telephone Company moved from the Code Block to quarters above Walstrom's Store. McEachern said the exchange will use 5 rooms.

May 9, 1919 - The Gazette-News was changed to Walsh County Farmers Press, a Nonpartison League Paper. Alex Ferguson, Lankin was president; N.R. Lee, Grafton, vice-president; N.G. Grovom, Park River, secretary-treasurer; Frank J. Prochaska, editor and manager.

May 16, 1919 - The editor of the Park River Herald was changed from A.C. Thompson to A.L. Dahl.

May, 1919 - T.I. Dahl is making arrangements to locate in Park River in the Taintor Block.

May 23, 1919 - Wiltse and Darling have opened a tire

vulcanizing shop. They are operating in the Ford Garage.

George W. Houser is the manager of the Robertson Lumber Company.

Charles Jungck has sold his barber shop to S.L. Albright of St. Thomas. 323 B Briggs Ave.

May 30, 1919 - James M. Laybourne has leased the T.T. Thompson Building, 419 Briggs Ave., and will move his pool and billiard room from the Dougherty Building.

June 6, 1919 - V.O. Scott of Grafton has leased the Woodard Building, 421 Briggs Ave., and will open a bakery and confectionery business. He has been in the bakery business the last 12 years.

June 6, 1919 - The Day run of the power plant starting July 1 will be 18 hours. The City Council voted to sell all electrical appliances at cost to build up usage.

Work is in progress on the construction of the Park River Motor Company garage, 302-304 Briggs Ave.

The Community Flour and Grain Company is in business.

June 27, 1919 - Due to the death of C.F. Taylor the Variety Store, 424 Briggs Ave., is having a closing out sale.

July 4, 1919 - Kelleher's pool room is now located in the building next to the post office.

The barber shop in the front corner will be run by S.L. Albright, 323 Briggs Ave.

July 4, 1919 - The restaurant building located at the corner of 4th Street and Code Avenue is for sale by Mrs. Ole Neste.

July 11, 1919 - John Nevin is to locate his law office in Park River.

July 18, 1919 - Loans and Insurance are now handled by Birder's Sons and Company - formerly operated as J.V. Birder.

July, 1919 - the price of a shave is 25 cents; haircut, 50 cents.

August 1, 1919 - Emmett O'Hara and Cyril E. O'Reilly have purchased the Moore Confectionery from Mrs. Ada Moore. They will continue the confectionery and will add a lunch counter. The location is 410 Briggs Avenue South.

August 2, 1919 - C.H. Dale opens a new grocery store in the Code Building where the Variety Store was located, 424 Briggs Ave. So.

August 2, 1919 - The Park River Motor Company has moved from their temporary location in the Towle Implement Building to their new quarters opposite the Farmers Press Building.

August 6, 1919 - The kitchen of the Windsor Hotel was badly damaged by fire.

August 8, 1919 - Dr. Marius Hanson, MD is moving back to Ada, Mn. Dr. Robertston will take over Dr. Hanson's practice.

August 8, 1919 - Joe Masloski has bought the Hasle Building, 408 Briggs Ave. S., for his barber shop. Half the building will be used by Park River Land and Loan Co.

August 10, 1919 - G.W. Houser, manager for Robertson Lumber left for Minneapolis. He will be replaced by Andy Hvidston, formerly in Milton with the company.

August 15, 1919 - E.D. Lum has taken over the Park River Herald from Dahl. Lum discontinued publication of the Park River Herald. He sold the equipment to people in Thief River Falls where it will be moved.

August 29, 1919 - Mrs. Grace Vandarwarka is the proprietor of the Windsor Hotel.

September 1, 1919 - Frank J. Prochaska resigns as editor of the Walsh County Farmers Press. He had held that position since 1900. E.K. Jenkins will be the new editor and manager.

September 5, 1919 - S.L. Albright who has operated the Barber Shop at the front of Mike Kelleher's Billiards has sold his business to George Gaylord who has worked for Joe Masloski.

September 5, 1919 - Mike and Ole's is closing out their line of stationery, 410 Briggs Ave.



"My bakings with Flavo Flour always please me, because it is made by the new MARVEL Process which does not mill out the natural sweetness of the wheat. I have never found such deliciousness and perfect raising qualities in any other flour, so I think Flavo will please you too. Order a sack and enjoy this treat."

September 19, 1919 - Hugh Darling has purchased the half interest of M.W. Wiltse Vulcanizing business.

September 19, 1919 - Russell Ramsey and Harry Swan have opened the Smart Shop, men's furnishings, where Mike Kelleher had been in the Taintor Block, 422 Briggs Avenue South.

October 10, 1919 - The Park River Motor Company sells Overland cars.

October 24, 1919 - Plans have been announced to build a hospital in Park River. On March 30, 1917, the City had a program for the hospital fund.

C.F. Harris is the agent for Bartles Oil Company.

November 7, 1919 - Herman Skjeveland has opened a restaurant in the building formerly occupied by Kelleher's pool room, 103-4th St. W.

November 28, 1919 - Skjeveland has sold his business to Mrs. Hattie Bethke, 307 Briggs Ave. S.

November, 1919 - James Laybourn has sold one-half interest in the billiard hall to John Dobmeier, 419 Briggs Ave. So.

December 12, 1919 - Train service has been reduced to three times a week from Grand Forks because of the fuel shortage.

December 19, 1919 - S.W. Robertson is the manager of the Robertson Lumber Company.

December 26, 1919 - H.C. Otto, after 5 years in the drug store, 412 Briggs Ave., has sold out to John O. Hamre. Qualley will be associated with Hamre.

March 12, 1920 - T.A. Catherwood sold his blacksmith shop to George Walker and son John of Hansboro, 109 Block, 4th Street West.

April 2, 1920 - Park River is to build a new hotel and hospital this year.

Hugh Darling opens tire shop for summer trade.

April 2, 1920 - T.F. Meagher has purchased all the buildings of the Towle property, including the livery barn and razed all.

April 9, 1920 - Bridgeman-Russell Company, Arthur E. Berg, manager, has opened a cream buying station next door to the post office. The Windsor Hotel is to the south, 319 Briggs Ave. So.

P.C. Duffy is setting up a plumbing shop in the building vacated by Mrs. Bethke located at 307 Briggs Avenue South.

April 16, 1920 - J.M. Myers has opened the Park River Hotel which has been a boys dormitory the last couple of winters.

June 4, 1920 - W.C. Kern is moving his cream buying station to the room occupied by J.O. Bredeng shoe repair. Bredeng expects to occupy Meagher's office back of the bakery as soon as Meagher's building is ready to move into.

June 4, 1920 - C. Scidmore and Sons, Roy and Lisle, have purchased the building Kern was in and plan an auto repair shop. It will be known as Scidmore Brothers, located north of the Windsor Hotel, 313 Briggs Avenue.

July 2, 1920 - T.F. Meagher is moving into his new location, 109 on 5th St. E.

INCORPORATED UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

NUMBER
19

FULLY PAID

Pakodot Cereal Company

Park River, N. Dak.

CAPITAL \$100,000.00

SHARES
10

NON-ASSESSABLE

GIVE CERTIFICATE HERE

C. F. Olson

is the owner of

Ten Shares of five dollars each of the Capital Stock of

Pakodot Cereal Company

transferable only on the books of the Corporation by the holder hereof in person or by Attorney upon surrender of this Certificate properly endorsed.

In Witness Whereof, the said Corporation has caused this Certificate to be signed by its duly authorized officers and to be sealed with the Seal of the Corporation

this 7th day of Oct 1920

H. E. Repege

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY

SHARES
\$5

July 30, 1920 - Dr. Richardson is leaving Park River. Dr. P.J. Rose will take over his dental practice.

July, 1920 - Poka Dot Cereal Inc. - G.W. Young and H. and E. Riplogle. Their product was buttermilk self-rising pancake flour.

August 5, 1920 - the Windsor Hotel has changed owners. William Leisenfeld has taken over from Grace Vandarwarka.

September 10, 1920 - The Park River Telephone asks for a rate from \$20.00 to \$27.00 per year.

September 10, 1920 - The Park River Telephone asks for a rate raise: Business from \$32.00 to \$39.00 per year and residential from \$20.00 to \$27.00 per year.



306 - east side - Briggs Avenue. Byrdie Staven with her sister, Avis. In the background is the coal chute. The building at the right is the UCT Hotel. (Perhaps the Bellerica at this time) - about 1920

September 27, 1920 - The Park River Motor is to enlarge their quarters. They bought the F.F. Spornitz building which has been moved south to the hotel property. Mills-Farup own the Park River Motor Company also. Spornitz was moved from 306 to 308 Briggs Ave. So.

November 15, 1920 - E.G. O'Brien has sold his one-half interest in Gergen and O'Brien to Emmett Dougherty. It will be known as Gergen and Dougherty, Palace of Sweets, 413 Briggs Ave.

November 23, 1920 - Baptist church burned on Tuesday morning.

December 17, 1920 - The phone rates were increased: Business, from \$2.65 to \$3.25 per month; residential from \$1.65 to \$2.00 per month; rural from \$1.65 to \$2.25 per month.

December 24, 1920 - Mills-Farup Auto Company has moved to their new place of business from south of the First National Bank.

January, 1921 - George Gaylord who has had his barber shop in Kelleher's Billiard Room the past year has disposed of the shop and equipment to D.P. George.

January, 1921 - Ole J. Thorson has taken his two sons into business after 15 years as sole owner,



Aerial view of Park River - 1921

It was reported in 1921 that the estimated population of Park River was 1400. The churches were the Baptist, Catholic, Episcopal, Lutheran, Methodist and Presbyterian. Three banks were in operation: Bank of Park River, Capital \$30,000, C.D. Lord, president; Farmers Security Bank (Capital \$20,000), Thomas Johnson, president; First National Bank, (Capital \$25,000), K.J. Farup, president. There were two hotels: The Park River Hotel and the Windsor Hotel. One weekly newspaper was published, The Walsh County Farmers Press. The land prices in the area had gone from \$40 to \$80 per acre in 1918 to \$50 to \$125 per acre. Businesses of the time:

Ackerland, Ole - livery; Aitken, David - farm implements, 106-4th St. E.; Anderson, Henry O. - drugs, 409 Briggs; Birder's Sons Company - real estate; Gustav Brandt - clothing, 407 Briggs; Bredeng, John O. - shoemaker, 104-4th St. E.; Cargill Elevator - T.A. Hanson, agent; Chapman, Leonard - Insurance; Community Flour and Grain Company - W. Brisley, manager; Currie, Sam - creamery; Dahl, T.I. - attorney; Dale, C.H. - grocer; Danielson, Martin - blacksmith. 106-5th St. W.; Duffy, P.O. - plumber. 307 Briggs; Ebbsen, Sam - tailor, 414 Briggs; Elliott, E. Wilson - veterinary surgeon; Erovick Electric Co. - Jack Erovick; Farmers Elevator Co. - Clark S. Eaton, agt.; Farmers Mutual Telephone Co. - J.A. Smith, president, William McEachern, manager; Fashion Shop - ladies furnishings, Mrs. F.C. Lord, 420 Briggs; Fee and Everson - general store, 417 Briggs; George, D.P. - barber; Gergen and Dougherty - cafe, 413 Briggs; Hultstrand, Fred - photographer, 104-4th St. W.; Johnson, David - undertaker; Johnson, Thomas - farm implements, 316-318 Briggs; Kelleher, Michael F. - billiards; Kern, W.C. - produce; King, H.F. - attorney (formerly the practice of John B. Nevin); Kinsala, D.E. - garage; Kohnen, John J. - auctioneer; Landsborough, Elmer - meats, 324 Briggs; Lyric Theatre - Walstrom and McEachern; Marifjeren, Nels - hardware, 405 Briggs; Masloski, Joe - barber, 408 A Briggs; Meagher, T.F. - farm implements, 107-5th St. E.; Mike & Ole - E. O'Hara and C.E. O'Reilly - confectionery, 410 Briggs; Mills-Farup Auto Company - David Mills, Clarke Farup - garage;



Ford Garage (302-304 Briggs Avenue) - 1920

Steve Magnusson, Kern, David Mills, Happy Woolridge, Holwerda, John Cost, Johnson. Clarke Farup, Ernest Letzring, William Skjerven.

Neste, Ole L. - meats, 422 Briggs; Olson, Ole P. - hardware, 418 Briggs; Park River Automobile Co. - Clarke Farup, president and David Mills, secretary; Park River Furniture Company - K.J. Farup, president, David Johnson, secretary-treasurer, 503 Briggs; Park River Hotel; Park River Land and Loan Co. - C.D. Lord, president; Park River Milling Company - John A. Dunn, president-manager, James D. Robertson, sec-treas. - flour manufacturers; Park River Opera House - E. O'Hara, manager; Park River Telephone Co. - Wm McEachern mgr.; Pengilly,

James - feed mill; Plunkett, William J. - dentist; Robertson, C.W. - physician left Park River in March, 1921 to live in Chicago; Robertson Lumber Co. - S. Robertson, agent; Rose, P.J. - dentist (He had taken over the practice of Dr. R.G. Richardson); Scidmore, C.M. - automobile accessories; Scott, V.O. - baker, 424 Briggs Ave.; Spornitz, Frank F. - harness, 308 B Briggs Ave.; Thorson, Ole J. - grocer, 415 Briggs Ave.; Thompson, William W. - jeweler, 414 Briggs Ave.; Thompson Yards, Inc. - O.B. Solvog, manager-lumber, 106-5th St. E.; Wade, Frank - shoemaker, 103-5th St. E.; Walker, George - blacksmith, 109-4th St. W.; Walsh County Farmers Press - E.K. Jenkins, mgr., replaced by H.E. Wagstrom as manager; Walstrom, Fred - general store, 401-403 Briggs Ave; Windsor Hotel - William Liesenfeld, proprietor; Weed, Frank E. - physician; Wellek, John - wagonmaker; Young, George W. - lawyer.

In October, 1921, Dr. George Hariman of Milton established his chiropractic shop in the Windsor Hotel.

Jack Halberg became postmaster in 1921.

(There were no newspapers to check for information from December, 1920 to January, 1922).

In 1921 Bartles Oil Company built a station at 301-303 Briggs Avenue South.

Robertson Lumber Company has a new manager - G.T. Bruzell from Beach, ND. Sam Robertson went to Grand Forks.

January 6, 1922 - Knutson and Son - Sheet metal workers - plumbing and heating, 314 Briggs Ave.

Dr. George Smith, physician and surgeon has space over Anderson's Drug; formerly Dr. Robertson.

After nine years in Park River, W.W. Thompson has sold his jewelry store to B.C. Carter of Forsyth, Montana, 414 Briggs Ave.

February, 1922 - P.C. Duffy is advertising, 307 Briggs Ave.

March, 1922 - E.J. Reopelle has a barber shop next door to the post office, 323 B Briggs Ave. So.

April, 1922 - Ernest Hanson has bought the barber shop from Reopelle. It is separated from the pool room.

May, 1922 - Business ads include: Mike and Ole's; Landsborough's Market; Dale's Store; T.F. Meagher and Son; B.C. Carter; Park River Auto Company; Farmers Elevator; Fred Walstrom; Henry Anderson, Rexall Drug; A. Finneseth; Charles F. Harris, Cities Service Oil; O.P. Olson, hardware.

August 1, 1922 - Mrs. F.C. Lord sold the Fashion Shop to Miss Mabel Zaiser, 420 Briggs Ave.

September, 1922 - Syl Wilson announced that he has purchased the Imperial Elevator.

An Army-Navy Store is in operation.

November 27, 1922 - J.J. Dougherty is now running the pool hall formerly run by Mike Kelleher.

December 1, 1922 - Ernest Hanson, located at the Corner Barber Shop, has set up a chair in the Windsor Hotel Lobby.

January, 1923 - Ed Colwell came as the new manager of the Standard Oil Station. Replaced Arthur Paas.

January, 1923 - S.B. Eidsmoe has become editor and manager of The Walsh County Farmers Press. He replaces H.E. Wagstrom who has gone to Edinburg.

The Vulcanizing Shop operated by Abner Levang is now open for business. It was formerly operated by Norman Moritz.

May, 1923 - Dr. Hariman has moved his office from the Windsor Hotel to a suite formerly occupied by Leonard Chapman, immediately south of the Bank of Park River.

May, 1923 - Fire damaged The Walsh County Press. Damage was \$2,000 to \$3,000.

May, 1923 - L. Pritchard of Thief River has bought the building now used for billiards and barber shop located at the first corner south of the post office. J.J. Dougherty was the owner. Carpenters have installed a partition the full length of the building down the center. The south side is for billiards, the other is open, 323 Briggs Ave.

April, 1923 - B.C. Carter, jeweler and Clarence Levang, tailor are sharing quarters.

May, 1923 - There is an ad for the Purity Coffee Shop.

April, 1923 - Albert Werstlein Pure Food Company is in the Walstrom Building.

July, 1923 - J.M. Laybourne has bought out John Dobmeier's interest in the pool room, 419 Briggs Ave.

July, 1923 - The Erovick Electric Shop is closed because of a fire. They are working out of the Duffy Building.

September, 1923 - The total cost of the new grade school building is \$135,000. It was occupied January 15, 1923.

September, 1923 - Hutton Young and Ivan Spornitz became owners of a delivery business.

October, 1923 - Pat Duffy purchased the building next door south of the Press, 307 Briggs Ave. So.

October, 1923 - 323A Briggs Avenue South is the address for the Garrison Company, next to the post office.

November, 1923 - The Neste Meat Market will be in the building, 307 Briggs Ave., between the cream station and P.C. Duffy's Plumbing Shop. The fixtures and stock will be moved this week.

November, 1923 - Dr. Smith moved to Grafton after 2 years in Park River.

November, 1923 - Selmer Sutherland has leased E. Pritchard's billiard parlor, 103-5th St. W.

December, 1923 - Dr. V.S. Irvine of Lankin has taken over Dr. George Smith's medical practice.

THE BATH

It protects the health.

It saves labor in laundry and work.

It adds to our appearance.

It soothes our tired bodies.

Every housewife should have ample bathing facilities, an abundance of hot water at all hours of the day and night. She should have a comfortable heating plant, a well ventilated house in which to live and rear her family. These are far more important than the radio or automobile.

Dealers for DURO Residence Water Systems

KNUDSON & SON

PLUMBING AND HEATING

SHOP PHONE 107

PARK RIVER, N. D.



Park River Milling Co. - 1923

December, 1923 - K.E. Westerlund has opened a cleaning and pressing shop one door north of the postoffice. It is called the Pantorium, 319 Briggs Ave. So.

Ives Radio Shop is open, located next to Birder's Office. In February, 1924, a local musical program was broadcast. Winnipeg has reported the program from Park River has been picked up there. In April, 1924, Ives tried to get a license to broadcast, but the government is licensing broadcasting stations only with certain requirements that are difficult to meet here. In May, 1924, Mr. and Mrs. George Ives left for Marshfield, Wisconsin to make their home.

April, 1924 - Two new cream stations are to be opened: F.F. Spornitz - Bridgeman-Russell Creamery will be located north of the harness shop, 308A Briggs Ave. A party from Lake City, SD, plans to open a station in the building occupied last year by Levang's Vulcanizing Shop.

April, 1924 - Ivan Spornitz who has the contract to deliver for all the stores in town improved his equipment this week by putting a top on his delivery wagon.



323 Briggs Avenue - 1924

July, 1924 - Vito Grangaspero has taken over Wade's Shoe Repair Shop, 103-5th St. E.

September, 1924 - J.A. Wright is the proprietor of the Windsor Hotel.

September, 1924 - Dr. G.E. Hariman has moved to Grand Forks.

B.C. Carter moved his jewelry store from 414 Briggs to 408 B Briggs, Hariman's space.

October, 1924 - At the Werstlein Store a 6 month old buffalo calf was on display.



Park River Milling Company - 1923



When YOU Need a Plumber

Just telephone us and see how quickly and efficiently we will handle your plumbing work for you.

We are ever ready to serve you upon a moment's notice.

We take particular pride in rendering the highest quality of workmanship at a cost that will prove very moderate.

The next time you will need a plumber, just telephone No. 223 and let us prove what we say in this advertisement.

P. C. DUFFY

Dealer In

**National Mazda Electric Lamps
For Farm and City Lighting
Plumbing and Heating**

PARK RIVER

N DAK.

January, 1925 - Harry Buck has taken over the interest in Werstlein Brothers Pure Food Company owned by L.R. Zander, 421 Briggs Ave. The Zanders moved to Michigan.

February, 1925 - The post office moved to the Bank of Park River Building, 406 Briggs Ave. Jack Halberg is the postmaster.

The Bates Brothers will open a harness repair shop in the old David Aitken stand, 108-4th St.E.

March, 1925 - A.A. Blecken went into partnership with the F. Walstrom Park River Grocery Co. The store is at the rear of the "Big Store."

April, 1925 - K. Westerland, proprietor of the Pantorium Shop has changed place of business to across the street from his former place, 319 Briggs Ave.

.R.O. Johnson is listed as selling John Deere Implements.

May 14, 1925 - Herman A. Pomeranke died. Ice House and Dray, 106-6th St.

May, 1925 - Johnson and Kitchen ad is for an Essex for \$895.00.

June, 1925 - Clifford Gates took over Standard Oil Agency from his father, Cass Gates.

June, 1925 - V.O. Scott who has conducted the City Bakery, 424 Briggs Ave., has sold to James Maher of Grand Forks. Mr. and Mrs. Scott will continue in the restaurant and confectionery business in the place they now occupy, 410 Briggs Ave.

July, 1925 - Thomas Severson is the new manager of Robertson Lumber. He replaces Bruzell.

August, 1925 - Nina Horner has set up a beauty shop in the Masloski Barber Shop, 408B Briggs Ave.

August, 1925 - Al J. Luetjen arrived. He will manage the Park River Grain Company Elevator.

September 3, 1925 - There was a fire at the Cities Service Oil Co., Bulk Plant RR Ave. E. Charles Harris received very serious burns.

September, 1925 - Don Hanson is the new barber at Masloski's Shop, 408A Briggs ave.

September 10, 1925 - Ed Herwick is still in business as a contractor and builder.

.Dr. Anne S. Lee is a chiropractor here.

.Dr. R.C. McAllen, eye doctor, Grand Forks.

.Dr. V.S. Irvine, physician and surgeon over Anderson's Drug.

.Park River Furniture Store - David Johnson and A.W. Shepherd.

.Dr. P.J. Rose, dentist - Union Block.

September, 1925 - C.D. Lord bought out the Birder Insurance Agency.

October 22, 1925 - Park River Hotel closed for the winter. Mr. McGinn is the manager.

.H.H. Egar has purchased the old mill site to build an up to date elevator. The mill burned in 1924.

October 29, 1925 - R.L. Douglas Warehouse, Bert Hardy, manager - apples for sale.

October, 1925 - V.O. Scott has sold his City Cafe to Roy G. Greenwalt, 410 Briggs Ave. So.

November 5, 1925 - Charles Harris is released from the hospital.

November, 1925 - Nels and Martin Haugen have opened a variety store at 422 Briggs Ave. So.

November 19, 1925 - Robert F. Gillespie, agent, has taken over from A. Bates cream buyer for North American Cream station in the building, 319 Briggs Ave., recently vacated by the Westerlund Tailor Shop.

November 26, 1925 - Mr. and Mrs. Ole Neste have leased the Park River Hotel and it is open for use. Mr. McGinn has leased the Windsor Hotel.

November 27, 1925 - S.B. Eidsmoe, 42 years old, died. He was editor of the Walsh County Farmers Press. He came to Park River in 1923.

December 17, 1925 - some ads in the paper: Dale's Cash Store; B.C. Carter; Harry Buck; P.C. Duffy; Park River Bakery; Cities Service Oil Co., C.F. Harris and George W. Harris.

January 7, 1926 - J. Emmett Dougherty sold his interest in the Palace of Sweets Cafe to Charles O'Brien, 413 Briggs Ave.

January 7, 1926 - J.H. Ulvan is now the editor of the Walsh County Farmers Press.

January 14, 1926 - Dr. A.O. Wold, optometrist and chiropractor, will be at Carter's Jewelry on Friday and Saturday, January 22 and 23.

January 13, 1926 - David Aitken passed away, machine dealer - 104-4th St. E.

January 28, 1926 - Roy LaMarre has purchased the lot north of the Press office and intends to build a service station, 301-303 Briggs Ave.

January 28, 1926 - Dr. E.A. Raten of Grand Forks will examine and fit eye glasses the 15th and 16th of February at the Windsor Hotel.

February 18, 1926 - For sale or rent - building south of the Park River Hotel, formerly used as bakery and cream station. Mr. P.A. Nykreim, 314 Briggs Ave.

March 4, 1926 - Business listings: First National Bank, Farmers Elevator; Dr. P.J. Rose; Mills-Farup Auto; Robertson Lumber; Gustav Brandt; A. Finneseth and Co.; N.J. Marifjeren; O.P. Olson; Walsh County Press; Fee and Everson; Hultstrand's Studio; Henry Anderson Drug; Park River Furniture; T.F. Meagher and Son; Gergen and O'Brien; Landsborough Market; Park River Auto Company; O.J. Thorson and Sons; Harry Buck; Thompson Yard (C.A. Stewart, mgr.); Park River Telephone; Dr. Plunkett; Dr. Irvine; Dr. Weed; Joe Masloski Barber Shop; C.D. Lord, John Hamre Drugs, B.C. Carter Jewelry, The Fashion Shop, Leonard Chapman, insurance, H.H. Egar, Walstrom, Lindstrom, C.H. Dale, Rubin Johnson, Park River Bakery, Haugen's Variety, Windsor Hotel, Park River Grain Company, Cargill Elevator, Sam Ebbson, Standard Oil and Cities Service Oil, Farmers Security Bank.

March 4, 1926 - Ole Neste has taken over the management of the North American Cream station from Robert F. Gillespie. He will also buy hides and furs, 320 Briggs Ave.

March 11, 1926 - DeSoto Creamery and Produce Company will buy farm produce at Buck's Store about the first of April. Harry Buck will be the operator.

March 18, 1926 - J.E. Dougherty Company sells Oldsmobiles.

May 1, 1926 - The City Cafe H.H. Ferguson purchased from Greenwalt who has had it about a year, 410 Briggs Ave.

May, 1926 - There was an ad for the Teapot Dome Oil Service Station.

July, 1926 - The H. Egar Elevator was sold to the Wheat Growers Warehouse Co.

August, 1926 - Mrs Neste has bought the Park River Hotel from a Mrs. Barnes of Mowbray, Manitoba.

August, 1926 - H.H. Ferguson sold the City Cafe to Ben Arness, 410 Briggs Ave.

September, 1926 - Charles Fee of Fee and Everson has moved to Grand Forks.

September, 1926 - Mrs. V.O. Scott died. They operated a bakery in Park River, 424 Briggs Ave. S., for 8 years.

October, 1926 - J.E. Dougherty has bought the Windsor Hotel from Mr. Wright who is moving to the state of Washington.

November, 1926 - Lien Brothers had an ad - Meats and Groceries, 421 Briggs Ave. So.

December, 1926 - Fee and Everson have a closing out sale, 417 Briggs Ave.

December 30, 1926 - W.C. Kern is operating a cream station, 313 Briggs Ave.

January 6, 1927 - J.H. Ulvan is the editor and manager of the Walsh County Press.

January 6, 1927 - Cass Gates and his son, Clifford, bought the Laybourne Pool Room, 419 Briggs Ave., from the Laybourne Estate. Gates sold his dray line to Emmett O'Brien.

February 3, 1927 - Dr. J.G. Millspaugh, 75, died at Little Falls, MN. He was the first mayor of Park River. His office was above the Haussamen and Hamilton Drug Store.

February 10, 1927 - Fee and Everson have closed out the general merchandise in their store but will have groceries and meats. It will be known as Fee and Everson Quality Cash Store.

February 17, 1927 - T.F. Meagher and Son are selling Maytag Washers.

February 24, 1927 - B.C. Everson has bought out Charles H. Fee, 417 Briggs Ave.

March, 1927 - Jack Rengle purchased Jack Gergen's interest in Gergen and O'Brien Cafe, 413 Briggs Ave.

April 7, 1927 - Cities Service buys the Teapot Dome Station which was built last year by Roy W. LaMarre of Grafton at a cost of over \$5,000, 301-03 Briggs Ave.

April 7, 1927 - Johnson and Kitchen have Airlox Tire Service. The Park River Auto Company is selling Chevrolet cars.

April 14, 1927 - Mills-Farup Auto took over the oil station bought by Cities Service. J.D. Robertson will be in charge. Charles Harris, local manager of Cities Service, has moved his office from the former location to north of the First National Bank Building.

May 5, 1927 - C.S. Eaton is the manager of the Farmers Elevator Company.

May 12, 1927 - Thompson Yards, Inc., 106-5th St. E., sold the yard and stock of lumber and building material to the Robertson Lumber Company. They sold the coal business to T.F. Meagher and Son.

May 19, 1927 - Local Drug changed hands: 409 Briggs Ave., Henry Anderson sold to L.M. Anderson. Henry was the local druggist since the early days of 1883, a year before the railroad came to Park River.

June 16, 1927 - The City's "White Way" was lighted on Saturday. It runs for three blocks, from Birder's residence south. The lamps of 300 watt strength are in the middle of the street. One old resident stated the new system is the biggest improvement in 25 years.

July 28, 1927 - Dr. H.O. Sauer, Chiropractor from Portage, Wisconsin, has set up a shop at the Windsor Hotel. He has leased the Shepherd house located one block north of the Mills-Farup garage. Dr. Sauer practiced in Park River until 1930.

November, 1927 - Wm. Skjerven opens shop in Thompson Yard office, 106-5th St. E.

November, 1927 - J.J. Dougherty is operating the pool hall formerly operated by M.F. Kelleher.

November, 1927 - Kinsala has sold his interest in the Park River Auto to partners, Overbye and Scidmore.

December 1, 1927 - Robert F. Gillespie is the agent for the Fairmont Creamery Company.

December 8, 1927 - Mr. and Mrs. Lew Parnell of Cavalier purchased the Windsor Hotel from J.J. Dougherty for \$4,250.00.

December 29, 1927 - Mr. F.A. Colson is the manager of the Park River Whippet Sales Company.

January 26, 1928 - Harry F. Kukowski is the agent for Rawleigh products, 506 Briggs Ave. So.

February 16, 1928 - Charles Anderson is now in Valley City. He had been the operator of the general store - Anderson and Nelson - 25 years ago in the building owned by Louis Pritchard.

March, 1928 - Red Owl Grocery store opens in Park River - South half of Walstrom building, 403 Briggs Ave. S. Charles H. Diebel was the manager.

April 5, 1928 - Bert Hardy, manager of the R.L. Douglas Company, dealer in fertilizers.

May 24, 1928 - Dr. F.E. Weed purchased the building now occupied by the Variety Store on the first floor and the Masonic Hall upstairs at a price of \$2,800.

May 24, 1928 - Garfield Mauritsen bought the Woodard Building now occupied by Lien Brothers Grocery for \$2,100. The Liens will continue in the quarters, 421 Briggs Ave.

June 21, 1928 - O'Brien and Rengle Cafe is your supplier of Sunday papers, 413 Briggs Ave.



Briggs Avenue looking South. East side of Street.



Haugen's Variety Store (1928) Martin Haugen and Mary Robb
422 Briggs Avenue South



**Fashion Shop - C. Mabe Zaiser and Bessie Tremayne - Pierce
418 Briggs Avenue South**



**Finneseth's Store 402 Briggs Avenue South Lawrence Finneseth,
Albin Anderson, Vera Warner.**



**J.O. Hamre Drug - Mike O'Hara in front 412 Briggs Avenue
South**



**Mills - Farup Auto 302 Briggs Avenue South Steve Magnusson,
Jack Service, and David Mills.**



**Arness Cafe - 410 Briggs Avenue South Inez Arness, Maude
McPherson, Leo Connor, Louise Arness and Ben Arness**



**Mills - Farup Auto Company 302 Briggs Avenue South Bert
Stary, center - David Mills, left**

August 10, 1928 - Alvin J. Cudmore, overseer on Highway 17, checked the traffic on August 8 between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m. 1½ miles east of Park River. There was light traffic-240 autos, 2 trucks and 19 horse-drawn vehicles passed by.

T. Alex Meagher has taken over the Standard Oil bulk dealership from Clifford Gates.

August 16, 1928 - Mayor J.D. Robertson accepted the wading pool when it was presented to the City. The construction of the wading pool in the park was completed earlier in the month. It is circular in shape, 30' diameter with a sloping bottom toward the center, holding about 2' of water in the deepest portion. Expense of construction, borne by the local Legion Post will involve several hundred dollars.

July 12, 1928 - Russell G. Woodard died in Minneapolis. His father was one of the early barbers of Park River. He built the Woodard Block now occupied by the Lien Brothers Grocery, 421 Briggs Ave.

September 6, 1928 - J.H. Ulvan, editor and manager of the Press for two years, will be succeeded by A.J. Norin of Minneapolis.

October, 1928 - Robert Gillespie is in charge of the Fairmont Cream Buying Station.

October 4, 1928 - B.C. Everson is having a going out of business sale. He's retiring after 14 years.



Interior of Landsborough's Market - 324 Briggs Avenue - 1928
Left to right - Elmer Landsborough, Frank Walker, Art Duff and George Williams.



P.C. Duffy, Plumbing 307 Briggs Avenue South



Robert Gillespie Cream Station, David Bruce.



Carters Jewelry Store, B.C. Carter - 408 Briggs Avenue South



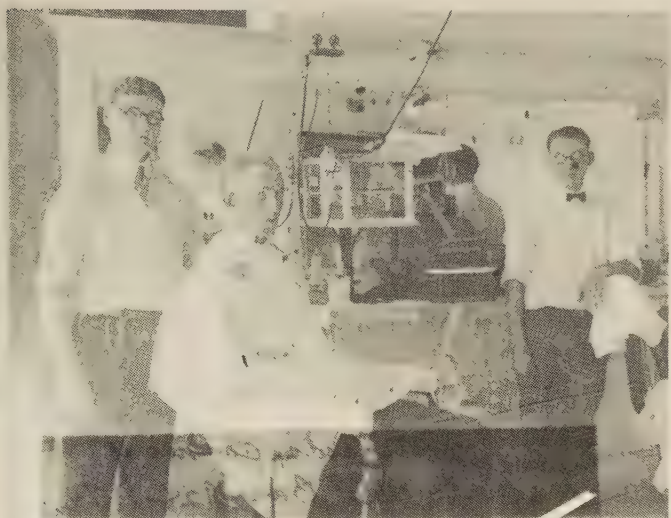
Ole Neste Cream Station, Syvert Idsol with cream can



Louise Parnell, Barber 319 Briggs Avenue South



N.J. Marifjeren Hardware 405 Briggs Avenue South



Louie Pritchard Barber Shop - 323 Briggs Avenue South



Grocery Delivery Wagon - Millard Thompson is the driver



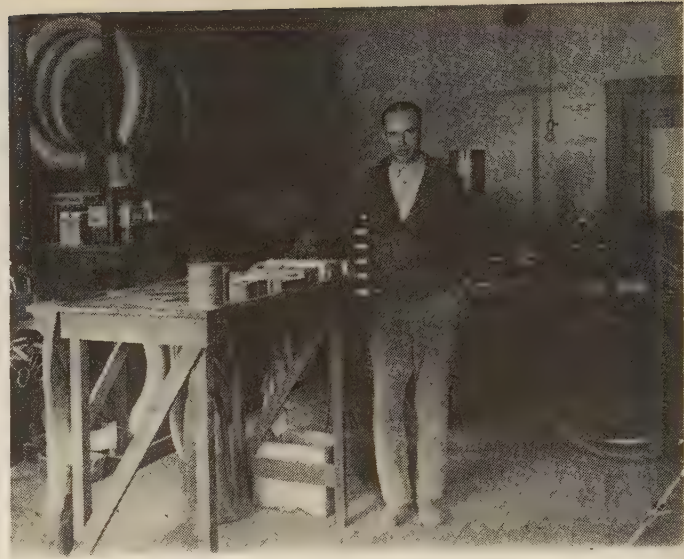
Fred Walstrom's Store 401 Briggs Avenue South



**O'Brien and Rengle Cafe 413 Briggs Avenue South
Jack Rengle, Chike O'Brien, Florence Levang, Gordon Bruce,
Chyle and Fanny Lewis**



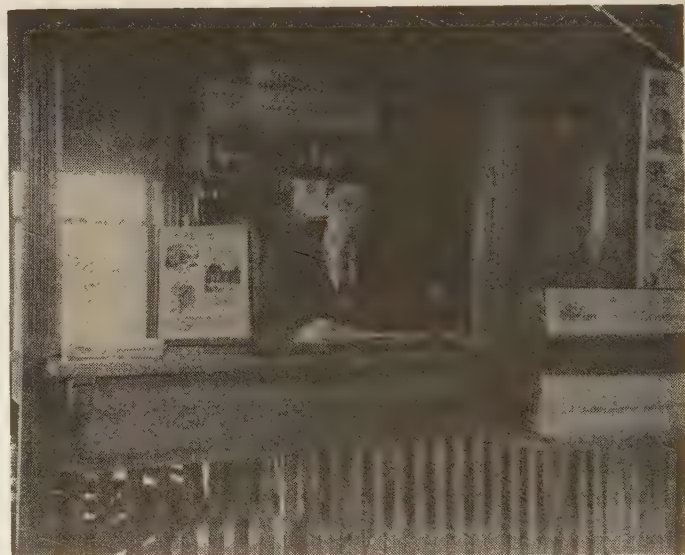
O'Brien's Dairy - Bill O'Brien



Vernon Parke - Tire Vulcanizing



Olaf Lien at Aiken's Implement and Livery Barn 106 4th Street East



Tom Severson, Manager of Robertson Lumber Co. 105 4th Street East



Vitio Antonio Gangasirio - Shoe Repair 103 5th Street East



Telephone Operators - Edna Olson McDonald, seated and Marie Erhart Knutson, standing Upstairs in Walstrom's Building



E.G. (Mike) O'Brien Dray Line Leon Ratliff in wagon



Fire Truck - 1928 - Corner of Code and Fourth Street, looking north



**Park River Auto Company 105 4th Street West
Frank Basell, Alex Meagher, Roy Scidmore, Louie Tuff**



**Farmers Elevator
Edgar White - C.E. Eaton**



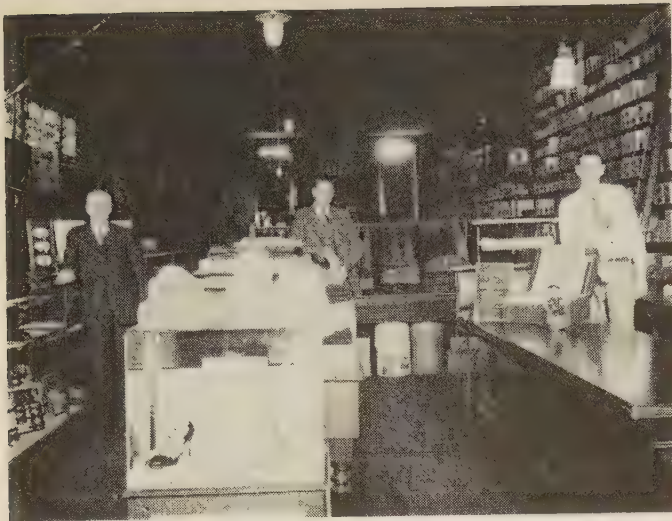
**Park River Auto 105 4th Street West
Roy Scidmore, J.C. Overbye, Harold Sunderberg, Frank Rynon**



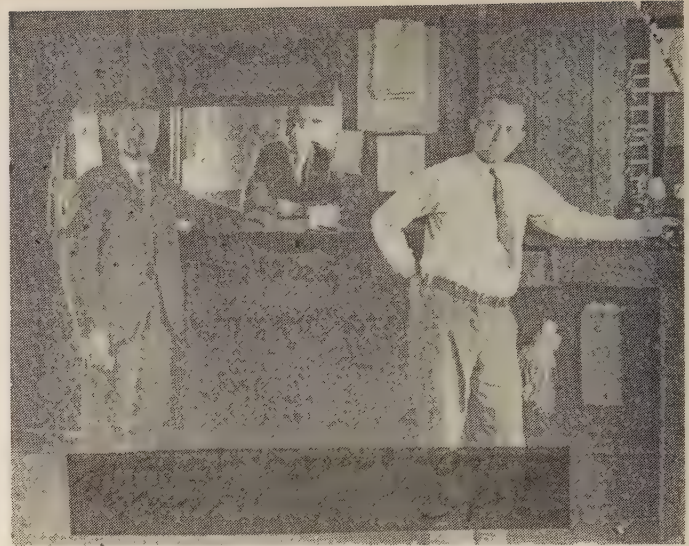
O.J. Thorson Store, 415 Briggs Avenue South, Walter, Fritz and Ole - Woman Customer is unidentified.



Interior of Finneseth Store - 1928.



Brandt Store Gustav, Jack and Olaf 407 Briggs Avenue South



Great Northern Depot - George Peck, Agent - Melvin Neste



Park River Grain Company - Gust Fern, Al Leutjen and boys



Johnson Furniture - David Johnson 503 Briggs Avenue South



W.A. Young Print Shop 106 5th Street West



**L.M. Anderson Drug Store 409 Briggs Avenue South
Mrs. Dorothy Anderson and Jordyce Pengilly**



George Walker, Blacksmith 107 4th Street West



Martin Danielson - Blacksmith 100Block, 5th Street West



Ole G. Rohne's Pool Hall 103 4th Street West



Alex Meagher - Bulk Dealer - Standard Oil

March, 1929 - Lloyd H. Harris opened L.H. Harris Recreation in the Thompson Building, 419 Briggs Ave. So.

March 14, 1929 - Ernest Kotaska purchased the grocery delivery business from Ivan Spornitz. He purchased a horse, wagon and a sleigh.

April 4, 1929 - Walsh County Press - Lars J. Siljan, editor.

April 4, 1929 - It was announced that the farmers plan to build a creamery in Park River.

Ads in the paper: Harold King, Farmers Security Bank, Dr. P.J. Rose, First National Bank, Dr. F.E. Weed, Mills-Farup Auto, Dr. V.S. Irvine, O.P. Olson Hardware, Dale's Cash Store, P.C. Duffy, Lyric Theatre, Gustav Brandt, H.O. Sauer Chiropractor, V.T. Parke Tire Shop, Park River Drug, Overbye and Scidmore, Clinton D. Lord, O'Brien and Rengle Cafe, N.J. Marifjeren, O.J. Thorson and Sons, A. Finneseth, Red Owl Store, Wm. Skjerven Garage, Park River Furniture, Gates Pool Hall, Masloski's Barber Shop, I.F. Spornitz, Corner Barber Shop (Pritchard), City Cafe (Ferguson, proprietor), Arness Cafe, Park River's new Pool Hall (Lloyd Harris), Park River Bakery, Maher, proprietor.

April 18, 1929 - Landsborough is celebrating his 10th anniversary in the meat market. He now is operating an IGA store, 324 Briggs Ave.

1929 - Radio parties were the 'in' thing for entertainment.

May 2, 1929 - Hanson-Bateman Co. are established in the implement business in the building formerly occupied by Dave Aitken, 106-4th St. E.

This is the era mortgage foreclosure sales have started.

May 30, 1929 - The High School Alumni Association has finished their first year. Miss Ella Hanson was president.

May 30, 1929 - L.M. Flugekvam is the proprietor of the Park River Cash Market and Grocery, 421 Briggs Ave.

June, 1929 - Under the direction of Jack Halberg the Boy Scouts have been very active.

July 18, 1929 - The Grand Opening of the Golden Valley Creamery was held. J. Dierkhising, mgr.

Overbye and Scidmore Service Station is open for business on the main street.

July 18, 1929 - The first Vitaphone picture in the County is to be shown in Park River.

July 25, 1929 - John Bures has taken over the Flugekvam Grocery and Meats. Bures came here from Lankin, 421 Briggs Ave.

**VITAPHONE INSTALLATION
COMPLETED AT THE LYRIC**

**Local Theatre Managers Receive Much
Praise After Trial Presentation
of First "Talkies"**

The finishing touches to the installation of the machinery for the talking movies at the Lyric Theatre was made last night, and the Vitaphone master piece, "Weary River", with Richard Barthelmess and Betty Compson in the stellar roles.

The trial run was very successful and the owners of the theatre, Will McEachern and Fred Walstrom, were the recipients of many laudable comments.

"Weary River" will be shown here for the balance of this week with two presentations every evening and a special matinee Friday afternoon at four o'clock for the benefit of visitors to the big Golden Valley Creamery celebration

July 25, 1929

**STOPSIGNS NOW GOVERN
APPROACHES TO NO. 17**

**Mayor Robertson Urges Strict Ob-
servance of Twenty Mile Speed
Limit Within City**

All streets of the city leading into Highway No. 17 have designate as "stop" streets by the state highway commission.

The speed limit on No. 17, through Park River, has been placed by the City at 20 miles. "It is hoped that all auto drivers will pay attention to both the speed limit and stop signs, and thus save trouble as well as money for themselves," says Mayor J. D. Robertson. "The loss of a few seconds of time might be the means of saving a human life."

Incorporated under the Laws of North Dakota



GOLDEN VALLEY CREAMERY

Park River, North Dakota

This Certifies that Lars Larson is the owner of
two (2) Shares of the Capital Stock of
Golden Valley Creamery
*transferable only on the books of this Corporation in person or by Attorney
upon surrender of this Certificate properly endorsed.*

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the said Corporation has caused this Certificate to be signed
by its duly authorized officers and its Corporate Seal to be hereunto affixed
this 20 day of Jan. A.D. 19 30

[Signature]

SHARES \$25.00 PAID

August 8, 1929 - Ed Kelner came from Crystal to manage the Farmers Elevator Company.

August 8, 1929 - Frank Prochaska, former publisher of the Park River Gazette, is now in Minneapolis.

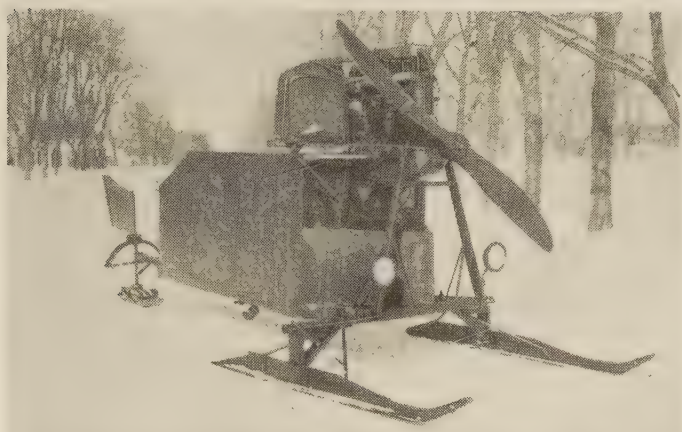
August 8, 1929 - Mr. and Mrs. John Aamoth of St. Paul visited in Park River. They moved from Park River several years ago after 22 years of living here.

August 15, 1929 - The City Water problem is to be solved by a new dam, a joint project of the City and Great Northern Railway. The dam is to be built 75' east of the little dam.

August, 1929 - Clara Bow has been receiving 40,000 letters a month and yet the post office department is losing money!

December 12, 1929 - B.C. Carter has an auction sale as he is closing his business. Other merchants are infringing on his specialty lines, 408B Briggs Ave.

December 19, 1929 - J.H. Maher, 424 Briggs Ave., is selling his bakery to Verner Plesner. Mr. Maher bought the old concern 4 years ago. The bakery now supplies bread for towns on the Hannah and Soo line railroads.



William Skjerven's new Snow Plane - January 2, 1930

January 2, 1930 - Wm. Skjerven is the inventor of a new snow plane, 220 lb. Hall-Scott aeroplane engine was used and may attain a speed up to 100 mph. It will hold 4 passengers besides the pilot. It is strongly built, ski runners are of steel. It proved its ample power by plowing through 2' of snow.

January 23, 1930 - John McNeil has the 8-room Metz house for sale. The Metz house was located on Highway 17 East on the south side of the road, across the highway from the Masloski house which was on the north side. The Metz house has been moved and is now located at 119 Regina Avenue (1984).

January 30, 1930 - M.O. Johnson has taken over the business of Hanson-Bateman, 106-4th St. E.

February 6, 1930 - G.E. Gunnarson is the manager of the Golden Valley Creamery, 218-220 Briggs Ave.

February, 1930 - Airplanes may be as safe as autos but few cars would collide if they had 4 ways in which to dodge.

February 13, 1930 - Mr. and Mrs. Ole J. Thorson celebrated their 42nd wedding anniversary. Ole came to Dakota in 1882 and built the first livery barn in Park River in 1884. Now he has been in the general store business for more than 32 years.

March 20, 1930 - Paul Gronvold took over the Hamre Drug, 412 Briggs Ave.

March 20, 1930 - Merger of Banks - Farmers Security and the First National.

April 24, 1930 - Park River had a population of 1114 in 1920; 1040 in 1925 and the preliminary figures for 1930 are 1131.

May 29, 1930 - O.O. Odegard, jeweler and watch maker, has taken over B.C. Carter's business, 408B Briggs.

June 5, 1930 - 10 bands competed last Sunday (June 1). More than 1000 automobiles checked in at the gates and about 3500 people attended. Had the weather been favorable this number would easily have been doubled. There was a wind storm.

June 5, 1930 - The Walsh County Press has a new owner - Harry F. O'Brien, formerly of Bottineau. Lars J. Siljan had been the previous owner.

June 12, 1930 - George McEwan died in Los Angeles. In 1885 he moved to Park River from Grand Forks and engaged in the farm machinery business with J.J. Dougherty. He was also the postmaster at Park River for 8 years.

June, 1930 - Campfire Girls are an active organization.

June 19, 1930 - Mills-Farup have opened a branch at Grafton.

June, 1930 - Ole Rohne moved his pool hall from the 4th Street entrance of the Pritchard Building to the building at 309 Briggs Avenue South.

July 10, 1930 - Park River has a Red and White Store (groceries). John Bures, proprietor, 407 Briggs Ave.

July 17, 1930 - Gunnarson has left the Creamery for Minnesota. Chester Knutson of Williston will be the new manager.

July 17, 1930 - A truck containing 14 horses tipped on Highway 17 Saturday evening near the Park River ballground. Luckily they were all wooden horses belonging to a merry-go-round, a part of the carnival company traveling east. No damage to amount to anything was done.

July 24, 1930 - A new restaurant will be opened by Joe Fail in the Pritchard Building, 323A Briggs Ave.

August 7, 1930 - Fred Hultstrand has taken aerial photos. Claude Skinner of Langdon was the aviator.



Aerial View of Park River, August 7, 1930. Fred Hultstrand, photographer, Claude Skinner, aviator

August 21, 1930 - The Great Northern Depot burned.

August 21, 1930 - Edson Simmons died. He operated a pool hall.

September 4, 1930 - Edward vonRuedon is a barber in the Windsor Hotel, 319 Briggs Ave.

January, 1931 - Haugen's Variety Store is moved from the Masonic Building to Walstrom's Store, 422 to 402 Briggs.

January, 1931 - Fred Walstrom retired from the general merchandise store he operated.

April, 1931 - Dr. H.O. Sauer purchased a practice in Devils Lake. He is a chiropractor.

May, 1931 - C.W. Walker has opened a feed store in the building north of the Windsor Hotel, 313 Briggs Ave.

June, 1931 - Olaf Malde has taken over the N.J. Marifjeren Hardware, 405 Briggs Ave.

June, 1931 - The Misses Helen Meier and Ella Hanson who have operated beauty parlors in the city have joined partnership and have opened the new DeLuxe shop in the Jacqueline apartment in the Union Block.

July, 1931 - The Legion's new pavilion "The Coliseum" was opened.

August, 1931 - Charles Flumerfelt and Lloyd Nelson of Devils Lake rented the building of the Mutual Oil and fitted it for a lunch room, corner of 5th and Briggs.

August, 1931 - Dr. Rikard Rogndal, chiropractor, operated out of the Hans Larson home at the north end of Main Street. He left Park River in December, 1931.

September, 1931 - Mrs. Ole Neste bought the Windsor Hotel from Mrs. Lew Parnell, (Kate).

September, 1931 - Leonard Chapman bought the Farmers Security Bank Building, 411 Briggs Ave.

October, 1931 - A.H. Peterson opened a jewelry store in the Park River Hardware, 405 Briggs Ave.

November, 1931 - William McEachern became the sole owner of the Lyric Theatre, 416 Briggs Ave. He and Fred Walstrom had been partners since 1915.

November 17, 1931 - The First National Bank was robbed. The hold-up netted the robbers \$7400.

December 3, 1931 - The Overbye-Scidmore Garage was destroyed by fire, 105-4th St. W.

December 11, 1931 - Art Meagher took over the Standard Oil Bulk dealership from T. Alex Meagher.

December, 1931 - The Green Lantern Lunch Room opened - corner of 5th and Briggs.

December, 1931 - Frank Bazal operated a repair shop in the building just south of the City Hall, 506 Briggs Ave.

April, 1932 - Dr. R.L. Stover, chiropractor, came to Park River. His office is upstairs in the Brandt Building.

April, 1932 - Leonard Chapman moved his insurance office to the Security Bank Building from Drug Store.

June, 1932 - F. Anderson will replace Chester Knutson as manager of the Golden Valley Creamery.

August, 1932 - C.H. Dale died of a heart attack. Dale Grocery 321 Briggs Ave.

October, 1932 - Vosper is the manager of Alden's Dairy.

November, 1932 - Paul Gronvold died. Gronvold Drug, 412 Briggs Ave.

January 27, 1933 - The Harlem Globe Trotters played in Park River.

January, 1933 - Karl J. Farup resigned as president of the First National Bank. He had been president for 26 years. He has been in Park River 42 years. A.C. Chapman is the new president.

July 1, 1933 - Beer was legalized; however, it was not effective until October.

December, 1933 - A.J. Kohnen died. He had been an auctioneer for 50 years.

Business ads for 1933 include:

John Bures - Red and White Store - groceries; O'Brien's Cafe; Duncan Meagher - coal and wood; T.F. Meagher and Son - John Deere Implements; E.R. Landsborough - groceries; O.P. Olson - hardware; Olaf Malde - Park River hardware; A. Finneseth and Co. - general store; Red Owl Store - C.H. Diebel; O.J. Thorson and Sons - groceries; Park River Grain - J. Lester Campbell; The Fashion shop - C.Mabel Zaizer; Sam Ebbsen - tailor and clothier; Robertson Lumber Company; P.C. Duffy - plumbing, heating, lighting; M.O. Johnson - McCormick Deering; Haugen Variety Store - Nels and Martin Haugen; R.L. Douglas Potato Company; Outlaw Store - Leonard Chapman; Mutual Oil - Oaks and Wright, manager; Milk businesses, O'Brien Dairy, Alden Dairy, John McEachern and Lewis Brothers; Bridgeman Russell Cream Station located across from the Lumber yard opened on April 1, 1933, Louis L. Stremick, agent; C.W. Walker - Park River Produce (opened in May, 1931 next to the Windsor Hotel); Mills-Farup Gas Station - Harold Leonard, attendant; Mills-Farup Auto Company; Colwell-Mayer Oil Company; Golden Valley Creamery - George Jensen manager replaced by

Egnar Malm; Lyric Theatre - William McEachern; Skjervens Garage; Ole Neste; Bennett Supply Company - auto parts; Park River Drug - L.M. Anderson; C.D. Lord - National Farm Loans; O'Brien Dray Line (Mike O'Brien); Pool Hall - Ole Rohne; Vavrosky Barber Shop; Park River Bakery; Park River Telephone Company; North Dakota Beverage Company; Dr. V.S. Irvine, MD; Dr. F.E. Weed, MD; Dr. P.J. Rose, DDS; Harold F. King, attorney - Walstrom Building; Dr. R.L. Stover, chiropractor - Brandt Building; David Meberg, general contractor; Ted Dahl, contractor; Fred S. Anderson - mortician and furniture (Dave Johnson returned in June, 1933); Vernon Marifjeren, agent for Grossman Dry Cleaning.

May, 1934 - August, 1934 - Business ads included the following:

Hultstrand Studio, 104-4th St. W.; David Mills - Ford Auto, 302-4-6 Briggs Ave.; First National Bank, 501 Briggs Ave.; Knutson Plumbing (N.J.), 314 Briggs Ave.; Johnson Furniture Company (David Johnson), 503 Briggs Ave.; Gamble Store - Alfred Zinke, Owner, 424 Briggs Ave.; Bridgeman Russell Cream Buying Station is now operated by H.L. Ward, 408A Briggs Ave.; Park River Bakery - Verner Plesner, proprietor, 321 Briggs Ave.; L.H. Harris - recreation, 419 Briggs Ave.; Park River Produce Company - C.W. Walker, manager; Flour and Feed, 313 Briggs Ave. So.

August 23, 1934 - W.A. Young, 104-5th St. W., has sold his print shop equipment. He has bought a paper in Drayton, ND.

August 30, 1934 - J. Lester Campbell is the manager of the Park River Grain Company.

August 9, 1934 - Louis Pritchard died. He had barbered in Park River for seven years. Tim Vavrosky became manager of the Pritchard Barber Shop. Edward VonRuedon will be in charge of the Pritchard Shop (323 Briggs Ave. So.). Tim will continue operating his shop at 319 Briggs Avenue South - in the Windsor Hotel.

November 15, 1934 - Ed Nickolay has purchased the Pritchard Building occupied by the barber shop and Fail's Cafe, 323 Briggs Ave. So.



View of Briggs Avenue, west side of street, looking north. (1934)

December 1, 1934 - Mrs. Emeline Robertson is the new postmistress. She replaces Jack Halberg.

December 20 and 27, 1934 - business ads include:

Halberg Insurance; Fail's Cafe; Rohne's Pool Room; VonRuedon, Barber; Midget Lunch; David Mills; I.F. Spornitz, harness and shoe repair; Cargill Elevator; Arness Cafe; C.D. Lord; M.O. Johnson; Alden's Dairy; O'Brien Dray Line; North Dakota Beverage Company, 412 Briggs Ave. - Ingesser Beer; Park River Drug, L.M. Anderson, 409 Briggs Ave.; Park River Community Bar (Sell's) will open on the 1st of January at 421 Briggs Avenue. John Bures was the last occupant.

Zinke's Gamble Store, 424 Briggs Ave.; Windsor Hotel; L.H. Harris Recreation, 419 Briggs Ave.



Main Street looking south - 1934

January 3, 1935 - "The Club" will open on Saturday, January 5. Andy Marifjeren, proprietor, 412 Briggs Ave.

January 18, 1935 - Ole Neste died.

February 7, 1935 - Roy Simmons has taken over the Knutson Plumbing Shop. His place will be known as the Park River Plumbing Shop, 314 Briggs Ave.

February, 1935 - "Big Ole" Show Company will present "Buddies" in the City Hall on the 8th of February. It is a 3-act comedy. WWI admission 15 cents and 35 cents. Dance to follow.

February 21, 1935 - Miss Edythe Skare opened a new beauty parlor in the Masloski Building, 408B Briggs Ave.

February, 1935 - Alfred Zinke is still in the Gamble Store, 424 Briggs Ave. So.

March 7, 1935 - An incubator will be operated in the Masonic Building by the Future Farmers of America Chapter - 422 Briggs Avenue South.

April 25, 1935 - Martin Danielson, a blacksmith here for about 15 years, died, 106-5th St. W.

July 4, 1935 - T.A. Hanson has resigned after 45 years with the Cargill Elevator.

April, 1935 - The Hanson Deluxe Beauty Parlor was moved from the Hanson house to the Masloski Building, 408B Briggs Ave.

May 2, 1935 - John Bredeng died. He had continued as a shoemaker in Park River for 25 years, 104-4th St. E.

June 1, 1935 - E.J. Lorenz replaced Al Zinke as manager of the Gamble Store, 424 Briggs Avenue.

July 4, 1935 - the ad is for O'Brien's Cafe - not O'Brien and Rengle, 413 Briggs Ave.

August 8, 1935 - DeSoto Creamery is to open a cream buying station managed by Kenneth Larson in the Scidmore Building just north of the Windsor Hotel - 313 Briggs Avenue South.

August 15, 1935 - O.C. Stautz has taken over the blacksmith shop formerly operated by Martin Danielson, 106-5th St. W.

August 15, 1935 - N.L. Smith is operating the Gamble Store Agency, 424 Briggs Ave.

August 22, 1935 - Peterson's Jewelry has been moved to the building next to Spornitz Shoe Repair Shop (308A Briggs Avenue South) from the Park River Hardware, 405 Briggs Ave.

August 22, 1935 - The Bennett Supply Company is advertising auto supplies, 417 Briggs Ave., Union Block.

September 12, 1935 - Egnar Malm, manager of the Golden Valley Creamery has bought the interest from George Jensen. Malm has been the manager for 3 years.

September 12, 1935 - The average cost of education per pupil in Walsh County in \$5.82 per month.

September 26, 1935 - T.H. Vosper, proprietor of Alden's Dairy, plans to open a lunch room in the Birder Building, 417 Briggs

Ave., formerly housing the Bennett Supply. It will be known as the "Sweet Shop."

October 17, 1935 - Garfield Mauritsen is now the manager of the Mills Motor Company, 302-308 Briggs Ave.

November 14, 1935 - S.P. Olson opened the barber shop, 319 Briggs Ave., vacated by Ed VonRuedon.

Business establishments listed for 1935:

Ole Rohne's Pool Hall; Attorney Harold F. King; Dr. V.S. Irvine; DeSoto Creamery; Arness Cafe; The Club; William O'Brien Dairy; Cities Service Oil; Community Bar; Park River Bakery; E.G. O'Brien Dray; Park River Drug Company; Alden's Dairy; O'Brien's Cafe; Bridgeman-Russell Cream Station; I.F. Spornitz; Golden Valley Creamery; Standard Service Station; Sweet Shop; Hultstrand's Studio; Mills Auto; C.D. Lord; Lyric Theatre; Fail's Cafe; William Skjerven Garage; T.F. Meagher and Son; Tim Vavrosky; Overbye-Scidmore; L.H. Harris Recreation; Masloski's Barber Shop; Park River Telephone Company; Dr. R.L. Stover; Sam Ebbsen; O.J. Thorson and Sons; Hazel's Beauty Salon; Midget Lunch; Dr. P.J. Rose; Gamble's Store; Fashion Shop; Johnson Furniture; Dr. F.E. Weed; A. Finneseth Co.; Park River Grain Company; M.O. Johnson; Cargill Elevator; Robertson Lumber Company; Lien Oil Company; Colwell-Mayer Oil Company; First National Bank; Landsborough's Market; John Bures Red and White Store; Dr. Plunkett; Outlaw Store-Leonard Chapman; Park River Hardware Store; O.P. Olson Hardware.

January 2, 1936 - Christ Lucken opened the Northside Grocery Store, 107 Highway 17 W. Building moved from 506 Briggs Ave.



Snow problem on Main Street (1936)

March 1, 1936 - Clarke Farup takes over the Mills Auto Company. It will be known as Farup Auto Co.

March 19, 1936 - Duncan Meagher joins his father's firm - T.F. Meagher and Sons, 107-5th St. E.

April 2, 1936 - Clifford Craig opens a news stand in Ebbsen's Clothing Store. It will be Craig's Place, 414 Briggs Ave.

April 9, 1936 - The Golden Valley Creamery will retail ice cream, 218-220 Briggs.

May 21, 1936 - Walter Dougherty has purchased the building north of Landsborough's store known as the North American Cream Building, 320 Briggs Ave. It will house the Park River Beverage Company.

July 16, 1936 - The Lyric Theatre is to be air conditioned, 416 Briggs Ave.

July 23, 1936 - A.H. Pederson's Jewelry auction was held, 308A Briggs Ave.

August 1, 1936 - The Johnson Stores will open in the Union Block - Birder's Building. Vosper's Sweet Shop will close.

September 5, 1936 - The Johnson Store opens, 417 Briggs Ave. Nelton Larson is the manager.

November 12, 1936 - Dr. R.L. Stover has left Park River.

November 16, 1936 - Dr. H.B. Blanchard, chiropractor starts visits to Park River on Mondays and Fridays at the Windsor Hotel.

December, 1936 - Tom Wright of "The Club" and Frank Sell of "Sell's Tap Room" are selling hard liquor, 412 Briggs Ave - 421 Briggs Ave.

December 10, 1936 - Thomas McNally has moved his Chevrolet dealership to the building just west of the bank, formerly Young's print shop, 104-5th St. W.

The papers for 1937 were destroyed in the fire at The Press, 305 Briggs Ave., February 13, 1939. Therefore, there are no records for that year.

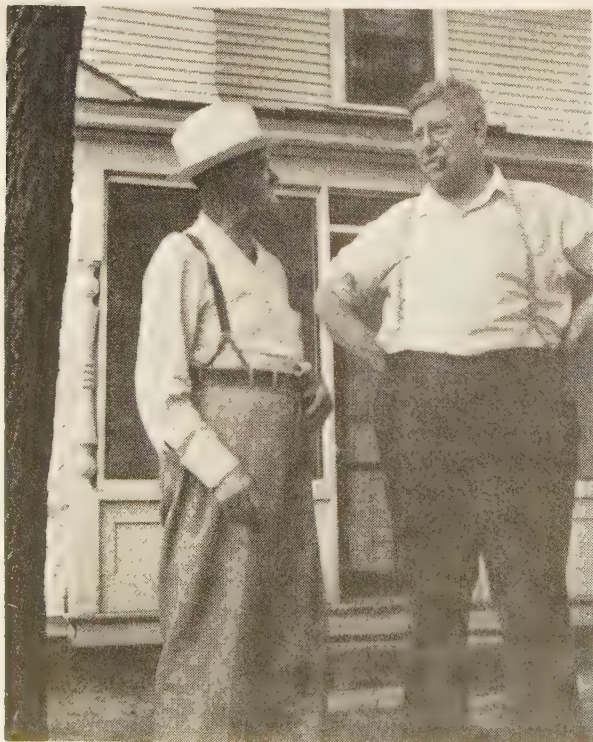
February, 1938 - The Gamble Store is owned by Ralph Jolley and Duane Campbell, 424 Briggs Ave.

March 10, 1938 - A deal was completed yesterday that makes E.L. Argetsinger, Cass Lake, MN the owner of Haugen's Variety Store, 401 Briggs Ave., in Park River. Mr. Argetsinger is a young married man and has one child. He and his family will move to Park River soon. Mrs. Argetsinger's mother makes her home with the family, and a sister of Mrs. Argetsinger, Miss Sundell, will be associated in the business. Nels Haugen has operated the Variety Store in the city for the past 13 years. The store has been a marked success, each year showing an increase in business over the previous year. Mr. Haugen's health has not been the best for some time and for that reason he is retiring from business to rest up and regain his health. His future plans are indefinite but he has no immediate intention of moving from Park River. Mr. Argetsinger will assume the management on Monday, April 4.

April, 1938 - J.D. Robertson retired as mayor of Park River after 18 years of service to the city.

Professional Listings for April, 1938:

Dr. F.E. Weed, MD; Dr. V.S. Irvine, MD; Dr. P.J. Rose, dentist, 415½ Briggs Ave. So.; Harold F. King, Attorney - Walstrom Building; Dr. W.E. Cowger, Chiropractor - Bank Bldg.; David Meberg - contractor; Theo Dahl - contractor; J. Albert Ferguson - auctioneer.



Emmett R. Porter, Sr., and Ed Colwell (1930's)

Business Ads in April, 1938:

Kelly's Barbershop - 408A Briggs Avenue S.; Walsh County Press - 305 Briggs Ave. S.; O.C. Stautz - 106 Block on 5th St. W.; Variety Store, E.L. Argetsinger, prop., 401 Briggs Ave. So.; First State Bank - 501 Briggs Ave. So.; Walsh County Seed Company, Lars Hylden, Prop., 102 Railroad Ave. W.; L.H. Harris Recreation - 419 Briggs Ave. So.; Park River Bakery, Vern Plesner - 321 Briggs Ave. So.; Hultstrand's Studio - 104-4th St. W.; Radio Electric Service; Gamble Store Agency - 424 Briggs Ave. South; Robertson Lumber Company, 105-4th St. E.; McNally Chevrolet Company - 104 Block on 5th St. W.; Park River Drug - 409 Briggs Ave. S.; Tim's Barber Shop - 422 Briggs Ave. S.; Ole J. Thorson and Sons - 415 Briggs Ave. S.; Wilson's Dress Shop - 319 Briggs Ave. S. (Windsor Hotel), Gertrude Wilson, Prop.

Red and White Store, John Bures - 407 Briggs Ave. S.; Johnson Furniture Company - Dave Johnson, owner - 503 Briggs Ave. S.; Rotnem's - Men's Furnishings, Ladies Shoes - Bert Rotnem, Prop. - 411 Briggs Ave. S.; Colwell-Mayer Oil Co. - Phillips 66 - Highway 17 East; Johnson Stores Company - 417 Briggs Ave. S.; Mildred's Beauty Salon - 414 Briggs Ave. S.; Lyric Theatre - 416 Briggs Ave. S.; Park River Grain Company - Railroad Avenue East in the 600 Block; Philip Falter and H.L. Ward - Jewelry Store, 308A Briggs Avenue S.; Vavrosky's Service Station - Texaco Station, Jerry Vavrosky - highway 17 East; Mutual Oil Company; George H. Walker - Blacksmith - 109-4th St. W.; T.F. Meagher and Son, 105-5th St. E.; O'Brien's Cafe - 413 Briggs Ave. S.; Sell's Tap Room - 421 Briggs Ave. S.; The Club - 412 Briggs Ave. So.; Golden Valley Creamery - 220 Briggs Ave. So.; M.O. Johnson - McCormick-Deering Implements; Malde and Sharpe Hardware - 405 Briggs Ave. S.; Farup Auto Company - 302 Briggs Ave. S.; O.P. Olson Hardware - 418 Briggs Ave. S.; Skjerven's Garage, 106-5th St. E.; A. Finneseth Company - 402 Briggs Ave. S.; Standard Service Station, 324 Briggs Ave. S.; P.C. Duffy Plumbing Shop - 307 Briggs Ave. S.

May, 1938 - Park River's Red Owl Store, 403 Briggs Ave., this week announces it is ready to serve its customers more efficiently than ever. The store has been entirely re-arranged for greater convenience both for the customers and the sales force. The service counter is now in the center of the store with groceries displayed in new sloping shelves along the sides of the store. A customer may obtain a basket upon entering the store and select the articles he desires. If preferred, clerks will fill the order as before. The local Red Owl Store will be 10 years old this fall. The manager since its establishment has been Charles H. Diebel, a grocery man with more than 25 years experience in the business. Joy L. Ratliff, with the store since 1934, has this week been promoted to the position of assistant manager. Clayton Everson retains his position as clerk.

May 19, 1938 - The Landsborough Market, 103-4th St. E., announces the opening of its new refrigerated locker plant May 21.

May 26, 1938 - Dr. William G. Movius arrived last week from Mohall and has opened a dental office in the Code building at the rear of the Gamble store. The entrance is on the south side of the building. He believes he has located a larger field and more prosperous territory for the practice of dentistry and decided to take advantage of it.

June 2, 1938 - Jerry Smazik is building a combination home and gas station, 107-4th St. W., on lots across from the Hultstrand Studio, at one time the site of the Overbye and Scidmore garage until it was destroyed by fire about six years ago. The building will be of frame construction, 22 x 24' in size. Two gas pumps will be installed.

June 9, 1938 - A deal was completed Monday evening whereby M.A. Johnson, Michigan, ND became the owner of the stock, fixtures and good will of the O.J. Thorson and Sons grocery, 415 Briggs Ave. Mr. Johnson owner of the Johnson Stores, Co., has leased the building from Mr. Thorson, will take out the wall between the two stores and add a stock of groceries to his present stock of dry goods and men's and women's furnishings.

June 23, 1938 - G.J. Mauritson has received notice from the postoffice department that he has been named rural mail carrier on a route out of Park River. He replaces C.O. Alm, retired. Mr. Mauritson has resigned his position with the Farup Auto Co. and will take over his new duties soon.

June 30, 1938 - Gustav Brandt, pioneer merchant in Park River, died, clothing - 407 Briggs Ave.

July 14, 1938 - E.R. Landsborough has announced his new bar is open and ready for business, 322 Briggs Ave. So.

August 4, 1938 - Once again a plea is made to local business men and other residents of Park River to avoid parking automobiles on the city's main street Saturday nights in order that shoppers in the city so far as possible may have convenient parking space.

September 8, 1938 - Arnold Hayes, a young man that hails from Blackduck, MN, has arrived in Park River and will do plumbing and furnace and stove work. He is headquartering in the Malde and Sharpe hardware store for the present time.

September 8, 1938 - A count of foreign cars was taken in Park River on August 4 under the direction of the local Civic Club which cooperated with the Greater North Dakota Association which took counts of foreign automobiles at 70 points within the state on that day. A total of 136 out of state cars were counted by local checkers, with Minnesota leading by a commanding margin, as might be expected in this part of the state.

September 29, 1938 - Park River Postoffice is to be moved to the Masonic Building, 422 Briggs Ave. Lease on the present building owned by Mrs. Alec Ford expired. The term of the new lease is for ten years. Tim Vavrosky, who at present operates a barber shop in the building has been asked to vacate October 1. Mr. Vavrosky plans to build a small building, 423A Briggs Ave., between Sell's tap room and the Midget lunch in which he will resume the barber business.

October 20, 1938 - The Farmers Elevator building was destroyed by fire on Saturday evening. Ed Kelner is manager of the Elevator. In addition to the elevator between 15,000 and 20,000 bushels of grain and 15 tons of coal were burned. All loss is covered by insurance, \$9,500 being carried on the elevator and a blanket policy protecting contents.

October 27, 1938 - Dr. V.S. Irvine has announced he will take up the practice of his profession in Grafton on or about November 1. He has practiced medicine in Park River since 1923.

October 27, 1938 - Farmers Elevator to be rebuilt at once. The building will be of 40,000 bushel capacity, about the same as the one destroyed by fire. The contract provides for completion of the building by December 5, this year. The contractors will use night shifts if necessary to complete the building before the deadline.

November 10, 1938 - The T.A. Hansons observed their Golden Wedding anniversary on November 8. Mr. Hanson was in the grain business for 47 years and retired as manager of the Cargill elevator here in July, 1935. They came to Park River in 1911.

December 22, 1938 - After January 1, Dr. F.E. Weed's office will be located over the drug store just across the street from his present location. It is now 409½ Briggs Ave.

December, 1938 - Eleanor's Beauty Shop, 103-5th St. E., is located in the rear of the Gamble Store. Eleanor Bockman is the operator.

December, 1938 - Business ads are: (in addition to those listed in April, 1938)

Gamble Store, C.K. McPherson, proprietor, 424 Briggs Ave.; Farmers Elevator - 401 RR Ave. E.; Ole Rohne's Place - cards and pool, 309 Briggs Ave.; Cities Service Oil Company, 301-03 Briggs Ave.; Jerry's Pure Oil Station, 107 4th St. W.; Fail's Cafe - 323A Briggs Avenue S.; Cargill Elevator - 323 Railroad Ave. E.; C.D. Lord, real estate, Walstrom building; L.H. Harris Recreation - G.C. (Cy) McLaughlin, Manager, 419 Briggs Ave.

The following businesses had ads in the paper in 1939:

John Bures, Fairway Store, 407 Briggs; Dr. F.E. Weed, physician and surgeon; Dr. Wm. G. Movius, dentist (over Bures Store); Fashion Shop, 420 Briggs; Herb's Standard Service, 224 Briggs Ave.; The Nickle Inn - Freda Adams, Prop., 212 Briggs Ave.; Malde and Sharpe Hardware, 405 Briggs Ave.; Northside Grocery - Chris Lucken, prop., hwy 17 W.; Johnson Store, 415-417 Briggs Ave.; Cargill Elevator; Pat Duffy - Plumbing and Heating, 307 Briggs Ave. (came from Grand Forks in April, 1920); Lyric Theatre, 416 Briggs Ave.; Sell's Tap Room, 421 Briggs Ave.; Park River Bakery, Verner Plesner, prop., 321 Briggs; O.C. Stautz, blacksmith, 106 5th St. W.; Hultstrand's Studio, 104 4th St. W.; McNally Chevrolet Company, 104 5th St. W.; O'Brien's Dairy; Kelly's Barber Shop, 408A Briggs; Farmers Elevator Company; Wilson's Dress Shop, 319 Briggs; O.P. Olson Hardware, 418 Briggs; A. Finneseth - general store, 402 Briggs; George Walker - blacksmith, 109-4th St. W.; M.B. Peter's, carburetor repair in Meagher's Implement Shop; M.O. Johnson - farm implements, 108 5th St. E.; Mildred's Beauty Parlor; Dr. V.S. Irvine, MD; Dr. W.E. Cowger, chiropractor; Lars Hylden, Walsh County Seed Company; L.H. Harris Recreation, 419 Briggs Ave.; Park River Grain Company; Colwell-Mayer Service Station, hwy 17 E.; Spornitz Shoe Repair, 308B Briggs; Park River Variety - Argetsinger and Sundell (since April 4, 1938), 401 Briggs Avenue; Park River Telephone Company; Falter and Ward, Jewelers; Joe Fail - cafe, 323A Briggs Ave.; First State Bank of Park River, 501 Briggs Ave.; O'Brien's Cafe, 413 Briggs Ave.; Sam Ebbsen's Tailor Shop, 414 Briggs Ave.; Park River Electric Service, J.M. Nygaard, prop.; Skjerven's Garage, 106-5th St. E.; The Club, 412 Briggs Ave.; T.F. Meagher and Son, 107 5th St. E.; Kelly's Barber Shop, 408A Briggs Ave.; Bert Hardy, 107-5th St. W.; Bert Rotnem, 411 Briggs Ave.; Jerry's Pure Oil Station, 105-4th St. W.; Farup Auto Company, 302-304 Briggs Ave.; Harold F. King, Attorney; Eleanor's Beauty Shop, (1st door east of Gamble Store), 103-5th St. W.; Henderson's Texaco Station - Walter Gerszewski, mgr.; Park River Hatchery - Elmo Ellingson, manager; Park River Drug Company, 409 Briggs Ave.; Johnson Furniture Company, 503 Briggs Ave.; Robertson Lumber Company, 109-5th St. E.; Leonard Chapman Insurance Agency, 411 Briggs Ave.

February 13, 1939 - The Walsh County Press building has a disastrous fire, 305 Briggs Ave.

March, 1939 - The Golden Valley Ice Cream Parlor opened, 218 Briggs Ave.

March, 1939 - The Lien Oil Company opened - Clarence E. Lien, owner - on Highway 17 W.

April, 1939 - The Texaco Station is operated by Walter Gerzewski, Hwy. 17 E.

The Park River Grain Company manager is Joe Berkland.

The DeLuxe Beauty Shop is operated by Ella Hanson, 408B Briggs.

B.J. Peterson and Sons are operating a meat market.

April 6, 1939 - Stanley Caine takes over the Gamble Store from McPherson, 424 Briggs Ave.

May, 1939 - Joseph Coghlan, lawyer, is to come to Park River.

May 25, 1939 - Sell's reopens after being closed for repairs, 421 Briggs Ave.

June, 1939 - Ben Arness has repurchased the City Cafe, 410 Briggs Ave. He had sold it to H.H. Ferguson in January, 1938.

August, 1939 - The Walsh County Press moved into their new building located at 404 Briggs Ave. S.

September, 1939 - Mabel O'Brien sold the Dray Line to Merrit Simmons.

December, 1939 - Dr. George Plaas, dentist, died. He left Park River in 1929.

Early in 1940 Dr. J.V. Jaehning came here and took over Dr. P.J. Rose's dental practice.

The OK Tire Shop operated by Walter Koskela closed in April, 1940.

January, 1940 - Henry Anderson, pioneer Park River druggist, died.

January, 1940 - Bert Hardy bought the McNally Chevrolet Company. He will also be the Case Implement Dealer. He will start his business on February 24. McNally went to Inkster.

February, 1940 - Eddie Nickolay opened a bowling alley, 323 Briggs Ave.

March, 1940 - Eddie Swensrud and Harold Gillespie bought the Texaco Station from Walter Gerszewski, hwy. 17 E.

April 26, 1940 - There was the Grand Opening of the Luxury Ice Cream Parlor, corner of 323 Briggs Ave.

April, 1940 - E.R. Landsborough opened a new bowling alley, 320 Briggs Ave.

May, 1940 - Fire of undetermined origin does heavy damage to buildings occupied by Frank Sell and L.H. Harris. L.H. Harris re-opened the last part of June, 1940.

May, 1940 - Erick Anderson is selling Forman Ford Pain Products in the old Press Building, 305 Briggs.

May, 1940 - Park River's new \$52,600 City hall was formally dedicated.

June, 1940 - Harold Oen is operator of the OK Rubber Welding Shop.

June, 1940 - The paper carried an ad for Eleanor's Beauty Shop, 103-5th St. E.

June, 1940 - Farmers Union buys the Walsh County Seed Company elevator operated by Lars Hylden. M.C. Adams is named the manager of the new cooperative.

July, 1940 - Lightning kills 5 cows on Alden Dairy farm near Park River.



Aerial View of Park River, fall, 1940

August, 1940 - C.W. Farup builds a 30,000 bu. potato house in Park River.

September, 1940 - School term begins, enrollment in the first grade, Park River school, hits an all-time high with 45 pupils registered.



L.B. Hartz Store opening - November, 1940
421 Briggs Avenue South

October, 1940 - Registration of men between 21 and 35 for possible military service was held on October 16. 2,571 Walsh County men registered.

November, 1940 - L.B. Hartz store opens in Park River, 421 Briggs Ave.

December, 1940 - E.R. Porter, owner-operator of the Porter Well Company died at the age of 72.

January 9, 1941 - Christ Schlenk, a pioneer resident and prominent citizen of Park River died at his home Tuesday morning at the age of 72. He was elected chief of police in 1904 and served in that capacity for many years. He became a member of the fire department in 1898 and held the position as fire chief since 1901 until his death. Forty years as chief placed him as the oldest fire chief in ND.

March 6, 1941 - George Towle died on Sunday, March 2, in Minneapolis. He resided in Park River from 1879 to 1905 where he was one of the founders of the First State Bank. He held the office of president up to the time he left this city.

March 6, 1941 - Mr. and Mrs. Thomas A Catherwood celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. They have resided in Park River since 1886.

March 13, 1941 - Mrs. Thelma Lovcik announced the opening on Saturday, March 15, of a beauty shop in the Windsor Hotel, 319 Briggs Ave.

March 20, 1941 - Thomas H. Vosper, 50, died in Seattle. Mr. Vosper operated the Alden Dairy several years ago and later was in the restaurant business for a time.

May 22, 1941 - T.W. Eyolfson is the new owner of the Park River Drug Company. He bought out L.M. Anderson who has operated the store the past 14 years, Eyolfson Drug, 409 Briggs Ave.

May 22, 1941 - Mr. and Mrs. O.H. Olson of Mott have assumed ownership of the Gamble Store which they have purchased from Stanley Caine, 424 Briggs Ave.

June 5, 1941 - City Fathers decide to resurface Park River's Main Street. A seal coat of gravel, asphalt and rock mixture will be put on the 5 blocks on Briggs Ave. that had been surfaced in 1936. The cost will be approximately \$880.00

June 12, 1941 - Charles H. Diebel, manager of the Red Owl Store in Park River since it opened 13 years ago was checked out of that position on Tuesday and expected to leave about July 1 to locate in Reno, Nevada. Gerald Metz, Cando young man, has taken over the position vacated by Mr. Diebel.

July 10, 1941 - The Farmers Union Elevator bought the Park River Grain Company and the Farmers Elevator has bought the Cargill Elevator. The Cargill Elevator has not been operated for the past few years.

July 10, 1941 - Mr. and Mrs. Fred Walstrom of Zainesville, Ohio, visited in Park River. They operated a general store here until 1931.

August 4, 1941 - Lloyd H. Harris died at age 47. He operated the Harris Recreation. The business continued under the ownership of Alma G. Harris, Cy McLaughlin as manager, 419 Briggs Ave.

In September, 1941 the following accounting of businesses was carried:

O.P. Olson Hardware - in business here since April 1, 1910; the Johnson Store, Olaf G. Brandt, manager - in business since September, 1936; The Park River Telephone Company since November 5, 1909 has 187 subscribers; Clarke Farup has been in business for 27 years; John Bures came to Park River on July 22, 1929; C.E. Lien came from Edinburg and established the Lien Oil Company in 1936; Walter Dougherty has been in business since July, 1935; C.D. Lord has been here since 1886; William Skjerven's Garage has been in operation since 1927; Johnson Furniture, since 1909; M.O. Johnson - farm implements - since 1930; Hultstrand Studio will complete 25 years of business on November 1, 1941; Finneseth's Store - established in 1884; Ted Dahl, contractor - since 1917; Hardy Chevrolet - since February 24, 1940; Ed Kelner has been the manager of the Farmers Elevator for 12 years; Golden Valley Creamery - Egnar Malm, since May 10, 1933; Bert Rotnem, mens' furnishings and ladies shoes - since June 9, 1937; Ella Hanson - Beauty Shop - since May, 1925; T.F. Meagher - in business for 27 years.

September, 1941 - William T. O'Brien sold most of his herd of cattle to J.C. Kenney when he quit the milk route. He retained enough to supply O'Brien Cafe.

October, 1941 - Joe Fail sold his cafe to Ralph Christianson. The Fail family moved to Red Lake Falls, MN, 323 Briggs Ave.

October, 1941 - Joy Ratliff replaced Gerald Metz as manager of the Red Owl Store, 403 Briggs Ave.

October, 1941 - Clarke W. Farup was killed in an airplane crash north of Moorhead, MN. Thirteen others were killed in the crash.

February, 1942 - The building just south of the Ford Garage that had housed the Spornitz repair shop was torn down, 308 Briggs Ave.

April, 1942 - LeRoy Mohn has opened a bakery in the Finneseth Building which is now owned by John Bures, 402 Briggs Ave.

May, 1942 - Glen F. Borg has purchased the creamery from Egnar Malm, 218-220 Briggs Ave.

June, 1942 - Rotnem's announced the closing of the clothing store. It was taken over in July, Leonard Chapman opened the "Outlaw Store." 411 Briggs Ave.

July, 1942 - the old coal chute is torn down and a new one is built.

August, 1942 - Floyd Engh has become the manager of the M and B Service Station, 108 5th St. E.

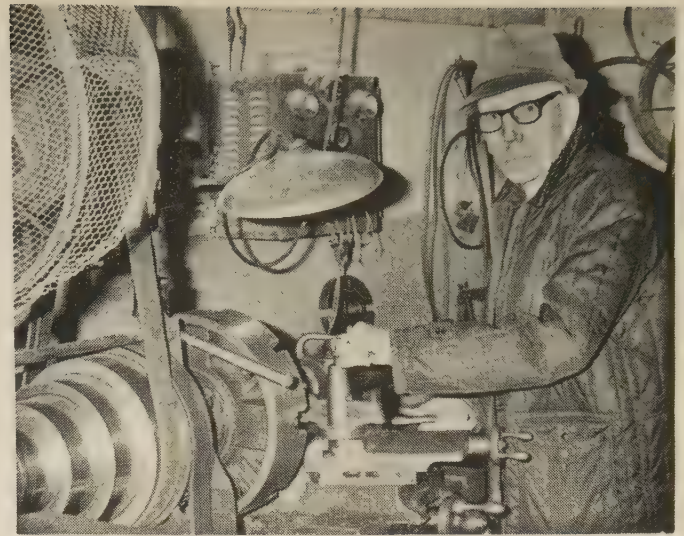
August, 1942 - Dr. V.S. Irvine will move to Lidgerwood.

August, 1942 - the Johnson Store discontinued selling groceries.

September, 1942 - Lloyd Gullickson is the new manager of the L.B. Hartz Store, 421 Briggs Ave. Stromberg has left town.

October, 1942 - Skjerven and Colwell have a war product plant in operation.

November, 1942 - Joe Fail has opened in Park River for the second time. He has a cafe in the building formerly occupied by the bakery - 321 Briggs Ave. So.



William Skjerven, Sr., working at his lathe - 1942

January, 1943 - Harold F. King, attorney has left his law practice after 22 years. He has accepted a position with the Office of Price Administration. F. Lorene Whitesides has joined the firm and will operate the law office, 401½ Briggs Ave.

January, 1943 - Marvin Sinjem is operating the Park River Cleaners, 313 Briggs.

March, 1943 - Joy Ratliff resigns as manager of the Red Owl Store. Norbert D'Heilly has replaced him.

March, 1943 - Murray King is operating a bar at the corner of 4th and Briggs.

April, 1943 - Mildred McCauley who has operated a beauty parlor for the last 6 years has leased to Effie Gillespie. In November, 1945 Effie Gillespie Lindgren bought the shop from Mildred.

July, 1943 - J.O. Severson bought the L.B. Hartz Store, 421 Briggs Ave.

July, 1943 - Garfield Mauritsen will replace Emeline Robertson as postmaster.

July, 1943 - George Peck has resigned as the agent for the Great Northern Railroad after 37 years.

September, 1943 - the O'Brien Cafe has been leased to Gordon Bruce, 413 Briggs Ave.

March, 1944 - Lloyd Staven has purchased the Code Building. The Gamble Store is occupying the building now...corner of Briggs and 5th St.

April, 1944 - Richard Dawson is now the manager of the Johnson Store. He replaced Martha Lou Johnson.

August, 1944 - O.H. Olson has purchased the old Park River Bank Building and the Gamble Store will be moved there - 406 Briggs Avenue South.

November, 1944 - Mrs. T.R. McNally (Mabel Zaiser) who has operated the Fashion Shop for 23 years has sold to Naomi Nikolay, 420 Briggs Ave.

Early in 1945 Bert Hardy took over the Main Street Standard Station and built a cement block addition 50 x 76 for a Chevrolet Garage, 222-224 Briggs Ave.

April, 1945 - Joe Fail has bought the Johnson Building at 318 Briggs Ave. So.

May, 1945 - Melvin Neste has bought out the men's clothing store from Leonard Chapman - 411 Briggs Ave. So.

May, 1945 - M.B. (Dick) Overbye has bought a one-half interest in the Johnson Furniture Store, 503 Briggs Ave.

May, 1945 - Joy Ratliff purchased the Landsborough Market. It will be known as Joy's Super Valu - 324 Briggs Ave. So.



City Council - 1945

Left to Right: William C. Skjerven, Skjerven's Garage, 106 5th Street East; Mervin Adams, Manager of Farmers Union Elevator; Bert Hardy, Hardy Chevrolet, 224 Briggs Avenue; Les Kelly, Barber, 408A Briggs Avenue; M.O. Johnson, IHC Dealer, 110 4th Street East; Elsie Catherwood, City Auditor; Elmer Landsborough, Meat Market and Groceries, 323 Briggs Avenue; Fred Hultstrand, Photography Shop, 104 4th Street West, Mayor.

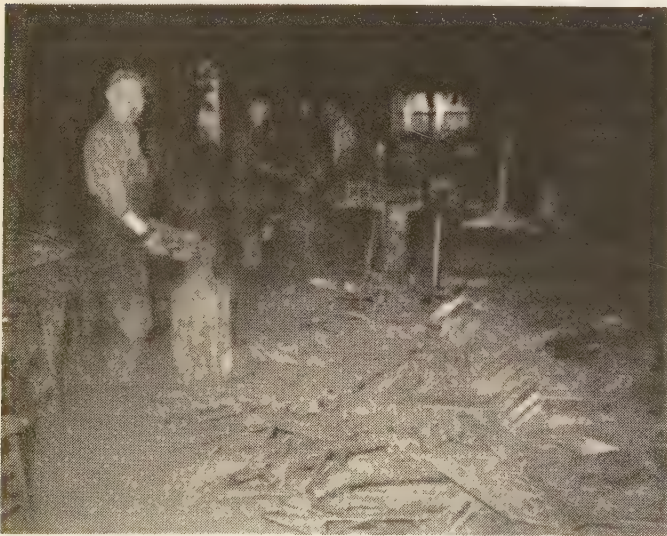
June, 1945 - Bessie Tremayne-Pearse has opened a gift and accessory shop. Part of Furniture Store, 503 Briggs.

July, 1945 - Art Bode returned to the Walker Blacksmith Shop, 109-4th St. W.

August, 1945 - the Skjerven-Colwell War Plant closed.

September 4, 1945 - Gunnar Oppeboen has purchased the cafe from C.E. O'Brien - 413 Briggs Ave. S.

September, 1945 - Art Bode has purchased the Walker Blacksmith Shop. George Walker had operated the business for 25 years.



**Art Bode's Blacksmith Shop 109 4th Street West.
George Walker, Knut Wick, Art Bode (1947)**

September, 1945 - Arnold and Don Hayes have purchased the plumbing shop from Esther Knutson, 314 Briggs Ave. S.

November, 1945 - Harold Harris returned from the Service and went to work at Harris Recreation, 419 Briggs Ave.

December 1, 1945 - M.O. Johnson sold his International Harvester business to Fred Silliman, 110-4th St. E.

Sometime during 1945 the bakery had been taken over by Ed Holt and was called Ed's Bakery, 402 Briggs Avenue South.

January, 1946 - The Hardy Chevrolet is located in the new structure, 322-324 Briggs.

January, 1946 - Bessie Tremayne-Pearse has purchased the building west of the Bank from Bert Hardy and moved her gift shop business into it, 104-5th St. W.

February, 1946 - Dr. Bruce Boynton has joined with Dr. F.E. Weed in the medical practice.

Weed in the medical practice.

February, 1946 - Count (Robert) Colwell has taken over the Case Implement line from the Park River Auto Company, 307 Briggs Ave.

Mike Bateman is the sole owner of the Ford Garage, 302 Briggs Ave. Park River Auto is now Bateman Motor.

February, 1946 - Vernon (Christie) Christianson has opened the Dakota Cleaners in the first door north of the Windsor Hotel, 313 Briggs Ave.

March, 1946 - Dr. J.V. Jaehning has returned from the war and resumed his dental practice.

March, 1946 - Ralph Peterson has purchased the dry cleaning equipment from Sam Ebbsen.

April, 1946 - Kermit Anderson and Clayton Everson have purchased the Fairway Store from John Bures, 407 Briggs Ave.

March, 1946 - Ozzie Stautz has opened a refrigeration repair and service business.

In 1946 Ernie Kotaska started a trucking company.

The Telephone Company has changed hands and is now the North Dakota Telephone Company.

October, 1946 - Pete Fail has purchased the building formerly the Dew Drop Inn - the name is changed to Pete's Place, 309 Briggs Ave.

November, 1946 - Lorenz Mahrer has purchased Clayton Everson's interest in the Fairway Grocery Store. It will now be called the Pure Food Market, 407 Briggs Ave.

November, 1946 - Robert Hickethier has opened the Park Motor and Equipment Company. He has the dealership for Kaiser cars, 316-318 Briggs.

December, 1946 - the Bina Repair Shop is opened on Highway 17 West.



Ernie Kotaska and Merrit Simmons

March, 1947 - The Farmers Union bulk plant will open. Wilbert Bartz, manager.

April, 1947 - Dr. Bruce Boynton left Park River for Ada, MN. He was associated with Dr. Weed.

May, 1947 - H.L. Sevell has taken over the Dakota Cleaners from Christianson, 313 Briggs Ave.

May 31, 1947 - William C. Skjerven Jr. has opened the Sky Club.

.Lloyd Gilbertson has opened a bar, 316 Briggs Ave.

.Eugene Kelner has purchased Landsborough's Bar. He assumes ownership July 1, 1947. He will operate under the name of Gene's Tavern, 322 Briggs Ave.

.Lloyd Staven has purchased The Club from Walter Dougherty, 412 Briggs Ave.

.Ralph Pederson's building to house the cleaning establishment was started, 516 Briggs Ave.

July, 1947 - Harold and Frances Gillespie sold their station and lunch counter to the Gust Walstads. The Gillespies will continue operating the bulk truck, hwy 17 E.

July, 1947 - Mrs. Vern Plesner leaves Park River. The Plesners had the bakery here, 321 Briggs Ave.

July, 1947 - Marian Simmons has sold his dray line to Lambert Svir.

July, 1947 - Change of ownership for L.H. Harris Recreation, 419 Briggs - from Alma G. Harris to Harold S. Harris.

August, 1947 - Roy Neste has established a law practice. He will have his office in the Windsor Hotel.

August, 1947 - Walter and Betsy Gillespie have purchased the William O'Brien farm located at the south end of Briggs Avenue. They will operate a dairy from that location.

August, 1947 - The Arness Cafe was sold to James McCauley, 410 Briggs Ave.

.Sam Ebbsen has sold his store to Harold Gillespie. Ebbsen has been in the clothing store for 36 years, 414 Briggs Ave.

bowling lanes, 320 Briggs Ave.

October, 1947 - Charles Porter has leased the Landsborough bowling lanes, 320 Briggs Ave.

October, 1947 - The Park River Dry Cleaners is located north of the Windsor Hotel, 313 Briggs Ave.

December, 1947 - business ads included:

Northside Grocery, Chris Lucken, owner, hwy 17 W.; William Bischoff, blacksmith shop, 106-5th St. W.; Park River Plumbing and Heating - the Hayes Brothers, 314 Briggs Ave.

January, 1948 - Effie's Beauty Shop was moved from Ebbsen's Building to the Walstrom Building.

January, 1948 - The Marshall-Wells Store opened in the Johnson Building (318 Briggs Avenue South) under the managership of M.H. Ward.

January, 1948 - James McCauley has operated the Arness Cafe since September, 1947 and is now joined by Ozzie Stautz, 410 Briggs Ave.

April, 1948 - It was reported that Dr. Weed came to Park River in 1915. He has traveled in all modes of transportation and over all kinds of roads.

April, 1948 - Charles (Chuck) Thompson will open a radio repair shop in Eyolfson's Drug.

April, 1948 - The Red Owl Store is closed. The Variety Store will expand into that area. (Walstrom Building), 403 Briggs Ave.

April, 1948 - Stanley Werre will open a jewelry store south of the mortuary and furniture store, 507 Briggs Ave.

May, 1948 - The Masonic Lodge has bought the Methodist Church.

May, 1948 - Lloyd Staven will open a Red Owl Store, 424 Briggs Ave.

July, 1948 - The Skoje Brothers have taken over the Bina Repair Shop, hwy 17 W.

Summer of 1948 - The new telephone office building is under construction, 102-5th St. W.

August 1, 1948 - Mrs. Ben Ingulsrud purchased the Midget Lunch from Carl Mattson, 423B Briggs Ave.

August 6, 1948 - the Northern Bus lines started operating through Park River.

September, 1948 - Ida Neste and Jack Erovick have leased the Lyric Theatre from Mrs. William McEachern who has had it 11½ years, 416 Briggs Ave.

September 16, 1948 - Dr. H.R. Piltingsrud has joined Dr. F.E. Weed's medical practice.

October, 1948 - The M and S Cafe has been purchased by H.E. Swiggum of Grand Forks. It will be named the Hub Cafe, 410 Briggs.

December, 1948 - The Farmers Union has opened their new Service Station located at the corner of 5th Street West and Code Avenue.

Christmas ads in 1948 include:

David Park Luxury, 323B Briggs Ave.; DeLuxe Beauty Shop (Ella Hanson); Gamble Store, 406 Briggs Ave.; Gillespie's Dairy (Walter Gillespie), S. end of Briggs; Farmers Union Oil Company (W. Bartz), 109-5th St. W.; Jerry's Service Station (Jerry Smazik), 107-4th St. W.; Ed Holt's Bakery, 402 Briggs Ave.; Top Hat Bar (Lloyd Gilbertson), 316 Briggs Ave.; Chapman Insurance Agency, 411 Briggs Ave.; Park River Plumbing and Heating (Hayes Brothers), 314 Briggs Ave.; Oppe's Cafe (Gunnar Oppeboen), 413 Briggs Ave.; Fashion Shoppe (Naomi Nickolay), 420 Briggs Ave.; Gillespie's Clothing, Harold and Francis Gillespie, 414 Briggs Ave.; Lien Oil Company (Clarence Lien), hwy 17 W.; Dr. J.V. Jaehning, DDS; Nickolay's Bar (Eddie Nickolay), 323A Briggs Ave.; Colwell Implement (Robert "Count" Colwell), 307 Briggs Ave.; Service Cleaners (Ralph Pederson), 512 Briggs Ave.

1949 - Dial telephones were installed in Park River.

January 6, 1949 - Some of the Park River Business establishments were:

Pure Food Market - (Lorenz Mahrer and John Bures); Malde and Sharpe Hardware (Olaf Malde, Gabe Sharpe); Marshall Wells Store; Werre Jewelry; Harold Schlenk - electrician; Eyolfson Drug (Ted Eyolfson); Park River Variety Store; Hardy Chevrolet (Bert Hardy); Bateman Motors; Gamble's; Joy's Super Valu; Ritz Cafe (Joe Fail); Northside Grocery (Luckens); F. Lorene Whitesides, attorney; Roy Neste, attorney; Weed Clinic; L.B. Hartz Store (J.O. Severson); Johnson Store; Melvin's Store for Men (Melvin Neste); Silliman Implement (Fred Silliman); Red Owl Store; O.P. Olson Hardware; North Dakota Telephone Company; Golden Valley Creamery; Bessie's (Bessie Tremayne-Pearse); Colwell Implement; Ed's Bakery; Service Cleaners (Ralph Pederson); Tim's Barber Shop (Tim Vavrosky); Dr. R.W. Baldwin, DDS; Dr. J.V. Jaehning, DDS.

January 27, 1949 - David Johnson retired after 40 years in business. He came to Park River in 1909 from Leeds - 40 years of Johnson Furniture and Mortuary, 503 Briggs Ave. In 1945 he sold a part interest to M.B. (Dick) Overbye.

February 3, 1949 - The Hub Cafe, formerly the Arness Cafe, Harvey Swiggum, operator, was bought by Ray McCauley and Ole Brandt. It will operate as Ray and Ole's, 410 Briggs Ave.

February 24, 1949 - J.C. Kenney and M.B. Overbye open the Park River Electric Service, 503 Briggs Ave.

March 17, 1949 - James E. Dougherty died. He operated a cafe and hotel in Park River before he left for Chicago 26 years ago.



Fire at Ford Garage - 302-4-Briggs March, 1949

March, 1949 - Olaf Larson bought the Farup Ranch, 960 acres, for \$42,000.

March 16, 1949 - Fire ravaged the Bateman Motors, 302 Briggs Ave.

June 16, 1949 - The O.P. Olson's celebrated 50 years of marriage. They came to Park River in 1910 and purchased the hardware business for Ole Hasle, 418 Briggs Ave.

July 14, 1949 - L.F. Strelow opened a refrigeration business in the garage behind the house. They have leased the Henry Staven property in the 500 block of Briggs Ave.

July 25, 1949 - The partnership of Ray McCauley and Ole Brandt dissolved, 410 Briggs ave.

August 11, 1949 - H. Douglas Roney of East Grand Forks bought the Werre Jewelry. The Werres went to Moorhead, MN.

September, 1949 - The Veterans of Foreign Wars purchased the H.D. Long and Son building, 305 Briggs Ave., across the street from Bateman Motors.

December 22, 1949 Christmas ads included:

L.B. Hartz Agency, 421 Briggs Ave; Eyolfson Drug, 409 Briggs Ave.; Gillespie's Dairy, S. end of Briggs; Red Owl Agency, 424 Briggs; T.F. Meagher and Son, 107-5th St. E.; Werre Jewelry, 507 Briggs; Mr. and Mrs. Gust Walstad, hwy 17 E.; Harris Pool Hall, 419 Briggs Ave.; Farmers Union Oil Company, Wilbert Bartz, mgr.; Fashion Shoppe, 420 Briggs Ave.; Staven's Club, 412 Briggs Ave.; Silliman Implement, 106-4th St. E.; Pure Food Market, 407 Briggs Ave.; David Park Company - Luxury Ice Cream Parlor, 323B Briggs Ave.; Brandt's Cafe, 410 Briggs Ave.

February, 1950 - Elmer Argetsinger took over the full ownership of the Variety Store from Kay Sundell Roholt, 401-403 Briggs Ave.

February, 1950 - The Luxury Ice Cream Store opened a new snack bar, 323B Briggs Ave.

John Bures has taken over the interest of Kermit Anderson in the Pure Food Market, 407 Briggs Ave.

March, 1950 - Marvin Sorenson has taken over the Park River Electric from J.C. Kenney, M.B. Overbye and T. Alex Meagher. New address is 320 Briggs.

May 1, 1950 - It was announced that the Gillespie Dairy will discontinue the milk route.

May, 1950 - M.B. Overbye (Dick) has taken over the full interest of the Johnson Furniture. It will be known as Overbye Furniture Company, 503 Briggs Ave.

August, 1950 - Pete Fail sold Pete's Place to Roy Erickson of Langdon. Will operate as Roy's Cafe, 309 Briggs Ave.

August, 1950 - The Northern Bus line has resumed their operation after stopping last spring due to the flood conditions.

August, 1950 - Oppeboens sold the cafe to Hubert Larsons, 413 Briggs Avenue South.

August, 1950 - The Fursteneau Lumber Company (Otto Fursteneau) has opened for business on Highway 17 West.

October, 1950 - Maurice O'Connell of Langdon has purchased Joy's Super Valu Grocery Store, 324 Briggs Ave.

October, 1950 - T.A. Daley sells Potato and Corn Hiller.

November, 1950 - Mrs. Helen (Roy) Neste has purchased the Fashion Shop from Mrs. Fred Kitze, (Naomi Nickolay), 420 Briggs Ave.

December, 1950 - Bert Hardy gets full dealership for the Chevrolet cars. He has been a sub-dealer for Overbye and Scidmore of Grafton.

February 8, 1951 - Ed Holt announced the sale of his bakery, 402 Briggs, to James Jackson. Ed Holt has been here for 6 years.

March 8, 1951 - Lorenz Mahrer bought Lloyd Staven's Red Owl Agency, 424 Briggs. The partnership with Bures was dissolved February 27, 1951.

March, 1951 - The Strehlows who operated a refrigeration business have moved to Minneapolis.

July 5, 1951 - Harold Falter bought Ed Nickolay's business and building. Eddie has operated the bar since 1941 - corner of Briggs and 4th Street, 323A Briggs.

August 9, 1951 - Gillespie's Clothing was sold to Melvin Gustafson of Langdon. It will be known as Mel Gustafson's Mens and Boys Clothing Store. (Gustafson sold out for health reasons in December, 1951), 414 Briggs.

September 20, 1951 - David Kinsala died. He came to Park River in 1912. He operated the Sims Auto Company which he operated a few years, selling to Overbye and Scidmore.

September 27, 1951 - Wes Samson will open an electrical service shop in Park River, 307 Briggs.

November 1, 1951 - Robertson Lumber Company will be managed by Vern Chally. Roy Peterson had been replaced by Gerald Gonitzke of Fordville.

May, 1951 - Effie's Beauty Shop was closed, 401½ Briggs.

November, 1951, businesses:

Bateman Motors; Red Owl Agency; L.B. Hartz Agency; Northside Grocery; H.D. Long and Son; Gussie's Service; Fursteneau Lumber; Jerry's Service Station; Fashion Shop; Eyolfson Drug; O.P. Olson Hardware; Gene's Tavern; Landsborough's; T.F. Meagher and Son; Colwell Implement; Overbye Furniture; Park River Potato Company; A.R. Meagher, Standard Oil; Ritz Cafe; Gamble Store (Oscar and Constance Olson); Skjervens Garage; Jim's Bakery; Harold's Bar (Harold Falter); DeLuxe Beauty Shop; Johnson Store; Kelly's Barber Shop; Malde and Sharpe Hardware; Roney Jewelry; Hultstrand Studio; Larson's Cafe; Farmers Union Oil Company; Robertson Lumber Company; First State Bank; Hardy Chevrolet; Farmers Elevator Company; L.H. Harris Recreation; Melvin's Store for Men; Super Valu Market; Service Cleaners; Brandt's Cafe; Golden Valley Creamery; Park River Electric; Marshall-Wells Store; Silliman Implement; Porter Well Company; Mel Gustafson.

January, 1952 - Jake Maier is the new manager of the Farmers Union Oil Company, 109-5th St. W. He replaced Wilbert Bartz.

April, 1952 - Dr. J.V. Jaehning, dentist, closed his office in Park River and moved to Grafton. He came to Park River in 1939, was in the Service from 1942 to 1946, then returned here.

April, 1952 - The Golden Valley Creamery was sold by G.F. Borg to the Grafton Milk Company. It will be renamed - Walsh Center Creamery, 218-220 Briggs.

May, 1952 - Don Hayes has sold his one-half interest to his brother, Arnold, in the Plumbing business, 314 Briggs.

June, 1952 - Ernest Hellquist has purchased the Marshall Wells Store, 318 Briggs.

June, 1952 - the Land O'Lakes Creameries, Inc. was in operation.

July, 1952 - M.C Adams has resigned as manager of the Farmers Union Elevator. Harold Garnaas is the new manager.

September, 1952 - Douglas Roney has moved his jewelry store from south of the furniture store to the Ebbsen building, 414 Briggs.

October, 1952 - It was announced by the David Park Company and the Walsh Center Creamery that they will not buy cream on Saturday nights.

November, 1952 - The Walsh County Press has installed a fully automatic job printing press.

December, 1952 - Christmas wishes were listed by the same merchants as the 1951 listing in November.

March, 1953 - Polar Telephone has bought the North Dakota Telephone Exchange in Park River.

April, 1953 - Douglas Roney closed his jewelry store, 414 Briggs.

April, 1953 - Louis Breyer purchased the Mobil Station from Gust Walstad. Percy Walstad will continue in the bulk station, hwy 17 E.

May 8, 1953 - The Landsborough Market, Super Valu Store, was reopened. It had been closed for the past few months, 324 Briggs.

May, 1953 - Richard Olson opened a jewelry store in Ebbsen's Building, 414 Briggs.

May 6, 1953 - Coffee in the local cafes went back to 5 cents after they had boosted it to 10 cents.

August, 1953 - Mrs. Ben Ingulsrud is operating the Midget Lunch, 423B Briggs.



The Midget Cafe with manager Amanda Ingulsrud

September, 1953 - J.J. Arnold leased the Lyric from Mrs. Will McEachern, 416 Briggs.

August, 1953 - Clarence Lien Sr. died. He had operated the Lien Oil Company, hwy. 17 W.

September, 1953 - the Jo-Wynn Apparel Shop opened (Winnifred Fail Fitzsimmonds), 314 Briggs.

September, 1953 - Mrs. Shirley Skeim will move her equipment to Park River and operate a beauty shop over Staven's Club, 412½ Briggs.

September, 1953 - Harry Buck died. He ran a meat market and grocery store at 421 Briggs Avenue South 26 years ago.

November, 1953 - J and H Coffee Shop opens in Jim's Bakery, 402 Briggs.

November, 1953 - Walter Sperling has purchased the Louis Breyer Mobil Service Station, hwy. 17 E.

November, 1953 - Ed Kelner died. He came to Park River to manager the Farmers Elevator in 1929.

November, 1943 - Walter Gillespie took over the Lewis Dairy business in Park River.

March, 1954 - Dr. F.E. Weed died. He came to Park River in 1915.

March, 1954 - Kenneth Hagen and Charles Snare have opened the Hagen and Snare Plumbing, Heating and Air Conditioning.

April, 1954 - Ray Junkin Plumbing ad was carried.

April, 1954 - Larson's Chevrolet Garage get the Chevrolet dealership. Their headquarters are at the Lien Oil Company, Highway 17 W.

May, 1954 - Henry Kane is the manager of the Farmers Elevator.

May, 1954 - The Hi-Way Inn, East 17, opens. It is located on the Jerry Smazik property.

May, 1954 - Sadie's Gift Shop opens....Sadie McEachern has taken over Bessie's, 104-5th St. W.

April, 1954 - Gilbert Wampach bought Bures Fairway but did not take over, 407 Briggs.

July, 1954 - Ronnie (Turk) Vavrosky has taken over the Top Hat Bar, 316 Briggs, from John Fitzsimmonds.

July, 1954 - Marshall-Wells Store announced they are going out of business, 318 Briggs Ave.

September, 1954 - Hardy's Garage is offered for sale, 222-224 Briggs.

In early 1955 the business ads included: Jim's Bakery; Landsborough's Market; Larson Chevrolet; the Fashion Shop; Fursteneau Lumber; L.B. Hartz, J.O. Severson, owner; Sadie's Gift Shop; Jerry's Ace Service on Highway 17; Robertson Lumber Company, Vern Chally, manager; Bateman Motors; Bures Store; Marshall Wells Store; Park River Electric, Marvin Sorenson; Samson Electric; Melvin's Store for Men; O.P. Olson Hardware; Ebbsen's; Eyolfson Drug; Silliman Implement; Johnson Store; T.F. Meagher and Son; Hardy's Standard Station; Farmers Union Oil Company and Ray Junkins, Plumbing.

February 17, 1955 - Brandt's Cafe is advertised for lease or rent, 410 Briggs.

March, 1955 - Harry's Standard Station is located west on Highway 17 in Park River.

April 28, 1955 - Park River Fashion Shop, 420 Briggs, was advertising they are going out of business.

August 27, 1955 - the Fashion Shop opens under new management - Mr. and Mrs. William Funk, William and Esther. It had been operated by Roy and Helen Neste.

September 15, 1955 - Jim and Helen's Bakery did not open following the Labor Day holiday due to illness of Jim Jackson. The bakery is for sale, 402 Briggs.

October 27, 1955 - Jim and Helen's Bakery opened for business again this morning. Jim's health has improved.

November 16, 1955 - Ernest Torfin has taken over the bakery from Jacksons. The Torfins come from Ely, MN.

December 5, 1955 - Shirley's Beauty Shop has moved to the building owned by M.O. Johnson from upstairs over Staven's Bar, 410 Briggs.

December 29, 1955 - Sadie McEachern, proprietor of Sadie's Gift Shop, died.

January, 1956 - Mamie Nelson has purchased Sadie's Gift Shop, 104-5th St. W.

February, 1956 - The Park River Livestock Sales Barn was opened with Lawrence Wilkes as manager.

March, 1956 - Mamie Nelson has run a contest for the name of her new shop. It will be called The Elizabethan.

April, 1956 - Two young lads, Glen Porter and Harold Harris, Jr. have opened a popcorn stand which is operated every Saturday night and on any other special occasion.

May, 1956 - Charles Harris retires as a rural mail carrier.

June 1, 1956 - Donald Lindgren has taken over the management of the Lyric Theatre from J.J. Arnold, 416 Briggs.

June, 1956 - Bateman Motors, 302-306 Briggs, is now a partnership - M.S. Bateman and Roland Bateman.

June, 1956 - the Dairy Queen is to open in Park River; Gene Swartz, owner - hwy. 17 E.

July, 1956 - Dr. James O'Toole joined Piltingsrud in the Park River Clinic.

September 27, 1956 - Landsborough advertised that he is going out of business, 324 Briggs.

October, 1956 - the Mobil Station is for lease, hwy. 17 E.

October, 1956 - Clem Weber has purchased the locker plant, 105-4th St. E.

November, 1956 - The Park River Electric has moved to the corner of 323B Briggs, formerly occupied by the Luxury Ice Cream Store. Gene's Tavern has moved to the site formerly occupied by the Park River Electric (320 Briggs Avenue South). The Red Owl will occupy the two corner places of Landsborough's, 322-324 Briggs Ave. So.

February 1, 1957 - Red Owl Agency, Lorenz Mahrer, opens on Landsborough's Corner, 322-324 Briggs.

February, 1957 - Gullixons goes into the Mobil Station, hwy. 17

April, 1957 - Lloyd Staven has remodeled the site occupied by the Red Owl Store for the P.R. Clinic, 424 Briggs.

May, 1957 - J.J. Arnold repurchased the Lyric, 416 Briggs, from Don Lindgren.

May, 1957 - Ed Brodina and Dorn Sticha purchased the Chapman Insurance Agency from Blair Chapman who has operated since 1951. It will now be called Valley Insurance.

.Robert Gillespie is agent for Western State Insurance.

May, 1957 - the Park River Speedway was sold by Allen Eide to two men from Grafton, Wilmer Collette and Leonard Altendorf, 2 mi. W. on hwy. 17.

July, 1957 - the price of coffee went to 10 cents a cup at: Ritz Cafe, Larson's Cafe, Gussie's Lunch, West Side Drive Inn and the Midget Lunch.

July 3, 1957 - The West Side Drive Inn is opened by Albert Richotte and Kelly Boyer.

1957 - Polar Telephone Company has bought the Silliman Building - 110 4th St. E.

July, 1957 - Duane Halvorson is the new manager of the Farmers Elevator. He replaces Ed Olson.

August, 1957 - Glenn Bruce is now the Mobil bulk dealer.

October, 1957 - Elmer Kotaska has sold the Kotaska Dray line to Harry Svir.

October, 1957 - Louis Papenfuss is the operator of Louie's Service, Mobil Station, hwy. 17 E.

.Frank Soukup is associated with Jerry's Ace Service, 107-4th St. W.

November, 1957 - Olson Jewelry goes out of business. Lester Forte takes over, 414 Briggs.

October, 1957 - Dakota Refrigeration and Appliance Store opened - John Fitzsimmonds, 309 Briggs.

November, 1957 - Silliman Implement has moved to their new building on Highway 17 West.

December, 1957 - F.J. Thorson is the new postmaster. He replaces Garfield Mauritsen who died in May.

January 23, 1958 - Mrs. Ole Neste, 83, died. She was proprietor of the Windsor Hotel.

March, 1958 - The Dakota Refrigeration and Appliance Store held their grand opening, 309 Briggs.

March, 1958 - Gilbert and Marjorie Lee have purchased the local Dairy Queen from Swartz, hwy. 17 E.

April, 1958 - Hubert Larson opened Hughie's Inn, formerly Gussie's, Hwy. 17 E.

May 1, 1958 - O.H. Olson announced the closing of the Gamble Store in the old Park River Bank building, 406 Briggs.

May, 1958 - Lavern (Buzz) Hell and John Waslaski bought the Park River Locker Plant from Clem Weber, 103-4th St. E.

May 15, 1958 - Geary Construction advertised.

June 5, 1958 - The Grand Opening of the Polar Telephone Company, 110-4th St. E., will be held on June 17.

July 31, 1958 - O.P. Olson died. He had purchased the hardware store from Ole Hasle in 1910.

August, 1958 - Dr. W.E. Cowger has moved his chiropractic office to 314 Briggs Avenue South. He had his office upstairs in the First State Bank Building since he came to Park River on May 15, 1937.

August, 1958 - Roy Neste announced his plans to build a new law office, 313 Briggs.

August 28, 1958 - The Potato Flake Plant begins construction.

September 4, 1958 - The Ritz Cafe was sold to their son, Mick Fail. The Fails have operated the cafe for 28 years, 321 Briggs.

October, 1958 - Vern Alvestad replaced J.D. Hanley as the Great Northern Depot Agent.

October, 1958 - The Walter Gillespies have discontinued their dairy business.

November, 1958 - Dr. Earl Infeld will be visiting Park River each Saturday, visual clinic.

November, 1958 - Roy Neste has moved into his new office building just north of the hotel, 313 Briggs.

January, 1959 - Polar Potato Products goes into operation (Flake potatoes). S. on RR Ave. E.

February, 1959 - Pete Schuman is manager of the Walsh County Creamery, 218-220 Briggs.

February, 1959 - James D. Robertson, 93, died. He's a former businessman and mayor of Park River.

March 12, 1959 - John Sylvester is associated with the Northwest Breeders.

April, 1959 - Mamie Nelson will move the Elizabethan Gift Shop (located on 5th Street) to the former Gamble Store location - 406 Briggs Avenue.

April 23, 1959 - Lloyd Johnson opened a repair shop next to Mike's Body Shop, rear 314 Briggs.

May, 1959 - the Park River Recreation is operated by Walter Goodman, 318 Briggs.

May, 1959 - William C. Skjerven, Jr. sold his spray service to Hod Hutson and Fred Goldstone Jr. It will be known as the Valley Sprayers, Inc.

June 25, 1959 - Mrs. Karl J. Farup, 91, died.

July, 1959 - Marlin Lothspeich has purchased the Valley Insurance from Ed Brodina.

September, 1959 - Dale Erickson opened a jewelry store in Ebbsen's Store. The Forte Jewelry had closed earlier this year, 414 Briggs.

October, 1959 - The Great Northern Railway Company announced they will stop the passenger service.

November, 1959 - The King Koin Launderette opened, 105-3rd St. E.

November, 1959 - Polar Telephone announced mobile telephones are available.

January, 1960 - Case Implement is operated by Larson and Walser.

January, 1960 - Louis Papenfuss has changed to the Standard Station, Hwy. 17 E. and Briggs.

March, 1960 - Glen Cudmore is the new owner of the Northside Grocery, Hwy 17 W. It was started on the 8th of January, 1936 by Chris Lucken.

March, 1960 - John Kelly has taken over the Mobil Station, Hwy. 17 E.

May, 1960 - Al and Bob Bauman have bought the Hardy Garage and will remodel it into a bowling alley. The business will be named Bowl-Mor Lanes, 322-324 Briggs.

May, 1960 - Floyd Fail has bought the Johnson Store, 415-417 Briggs.

May, 1960 - Lloyd Staven will erect a 50 x 80 building on the Leonard corner (Briggs and 6th St. W.) to house the Government offices.

June 2, 1960 - New postoffice is proposed for Park River. It is planned to be built north of Roy Neste's law office, facing Code Avenue, 309-311 Briggs.

July 14, 1960 - Rex's Radio and TV Shop is in operation west of the Bank, the building formerly housed the Elizabethan, 104-5th St. E.

September, 1960 - Bowl-Mor Lanes opened, 322-324 Briggs.

September, 1960 - The main street surface was resealed (Briggs Avenue).

December, 1960 - the Dairy Bar and Grill Cafe was opened, 309 Briggs.

January 13 and 14, 1961 - Dairy Bar and Grill held their grand opening, John Fitzsimmonds, prop.

January, 1961 - Silliman Implement gets the Buick franchise.

January, 1961 - Grand opening was held at Staven's Building on the corner of Briggs and 6th St.

January, 1961 - Joe Fail died. He operated the Ritz Cafe, 421 Briggs.

February, 1961 - George Sandy is to manage the new Legion Steak House. The Steak House opened on March 15, 1961, 108-5th St. E.

March 9, 1961 - Glenn Bruce and John Waslaski enter the feed grinding business. It will be known as the Valley Mobile Feed Company.

March, 1961 - Ed Brodina, Lankin Insurance Agency, merged with Marlin Lothspeich. On June 1, 1961 Ed Brodina bought out Lothspeich.

April 1, 1961 - the Seven Falls Drive Inn will open - Mrs. Alvina Fail and Mrs. John Fitzsimmonds, Hwy 17 W.

April 29, 1961 - the Dairy Bar and Grill Cafe burned, 309 Briggs.

May 13, 1961 - Mohagen-Hunter Furniture store opened for business in the quarters formerly occupied by the Park River Recreation - 318 Briggs Avenue South. Hunter operated a plumbing shop.

July 27, 1961 - Glenn Dahl is the Mobil bulk dealer.

July, 1961 - Motel 17 opened for business east of Park River. Eddie Nickolay, owner.

September, 1961 - Dr. Robert O. Nelson joins the Sturlaugson Veterinary Clinic.

September, 1961 - Samson Electric is going to move to their new quarters on Highway 17 W.

October, 1961 - Pinky's Bar appears in an ad, 316 Briggs.

October 12, 1961 - the last ad of Rex Radio and TV Shop is listed.

December, 1961 - the First State Bank holds their grand opening in the new building, 501-503 Briggs. They have been operating in the basement of the City Hall.

December, 1961 - Erickson Jewelry announced they are going out of business. They had been in operation since they purchased from Olson in September, 1959, 414 Briggs.

December 31, 1961 - Art Meagher will retire as the Standard Oil bulk dealer. He started on December 11, 1931, taking over from T. Alex Meagher. His business was sold to Merle Onstad.

Park River Repair Shop - William Bischoff, is still in business, 108-5th St. W.

January, 1962 - The Elizabethan has a going out of business sale, 406 Briggs.

February, 1962 - It was announced that western Walsh will be the site for the Minuteman Bases.

February, 1962 - Midland Fertilizer Plant will be opened, RR Ave.

February, 1962 - Erickson Jewelry closed, 414 Briggs.

February, 1962 - Bert's TV Repair Shop opened in the shop west of the Bank, 104-5th St. W. - Bert Senecal.

February 23, 1962 - The new postoffice is to open today - 311 Briggs Avenue South. Employees are Mr. and Mrs. Bickford Hobbs, Clarence Everson, David Lawson and Alex Ford.

March 17, 1962 - Mrs. Ralph (Lorraine) Pederson opened a children's clothing store in the old Park River Bank building, 406 Briggs. It will be called "Lorraine's Young World."

March 29, 1962 - The Park River stores have decided to forego the traditional Saturday night opening and stay open on Friday nights.

April 4, 1962 - Larry McEnroe has taken over from Lawrence Wilkes at the Park River Livestock Auction Market.

April, 1962 - John Kelly opened Kelly's Drive Inn, formerly known as Hughie's, Hwy. 17 E.

May 1, 1962 - The Fursteneau Lumber Company, Hwy 17 W. is sold to Gerald (Bud) Sobolik and Clem Houdek. It will be known as the Park River Lumber Company. Fursteneau operated the business 12 years.

July, 1962 - Dr. James K. O'Toole, MD leaves the Park River Clinic, 424 Briggs.

September, 1962 - Dr. J.G. Barrie from Estevan, Saskatchewan will join Dr. Piltingsrud at the Park River Clinic.

September 17, 1962 - Dr. W.E. Cowger died. He came to Park River in 1937.

October, 1962 - Ed Brodina Insurance will move from above Bures Store to the Ebbsen Building, 407½ Briggs to 414 Briggs.

November, 1962 - the Coast-to-Coast Store is opened in the Masonic Building, 422 Briggs Ave., recently occupied by the postoffice. Jim Rome will be the manager.

November 19, 1962 - Merle Onstad will move the Standard Bulk office from Meagher's Shop to Hwy, 17 E.

January, 1963 - Dr. Sturlaugson and Dr. Nelson have moved into their new Park River Veterinary Clinic building on Hwy 17 W.

January, 1963 - Bures Fairway Grocery store closed, 407 Briggs.

March, 1963 - Carol's Beauty Shop is opened in the Vern Alvstad residence, 111-3rd St. W. Carol is Mrs. Vern Alvstad.

March, 1963 - Clifford Johnson is to open the drive in on April 1. It was formerly under the ownership of John Kelly, Hwy. 17 E.

April, 1963 - The Park River stores go back to the Saturday night opening.

April 26, 1963 - Lee J. Neste has purchased Melvin's Store for Men from his father, Melvin, who went into the business in May 1945, 411 Briggs.

May, 1963 - The Park River Council give the green light to new street lights on main street.

May, 1963 - Shirley's Beauty Shop will move from the Arness Bldg., 410 Briggs to her home on Highway 17 E. She has been here for 10 years.

May, 1963 - Two young girls are in business. Barbara Porter and Ann Harris have assumed the operation of the popcorn stand from their brothers--Glen Porter and Harold Harris, Jr. The girls will continue to operate the nights the stores are open and for any special occasion.

May, 1963 - The Seven Falls Drive Inn opened for another season - Mrs. Alvina Fail.

June, 1963 - Gilfred Moen replaced Vernon Chally as manager of the Robertson Lumber Company.

June 27, 1963 - John Meagher takes over the operation of the Standard Station from Louie Papenfuss who will take over the Mobil Bulk from Glenn Dahl. Louis operated the Mobil Service Station for more than three years, starting in 1957. He was in the Standard Station since it was built, Hwy. 17 and Briggs.

July 1, 1963 - the T.F. Meagher business was sold to Orville Hagen and John R. Wild. Duncan Meagher had operated the business since 1934, 107-5th St. E.

July 1, 1963 - Clair and Selma Clemetson took over The Club from Lloyd and Byrdie Staven, 412 Briggs.

August 5, 1963 - The Valley Furniture Store opened where Mohagen-Hunter had operated until this past spring. Duane Ganyo is the manager of the furniture store, 318 Briggs.

.When Mohagen-Hunter closed, Mohagen left Park River and Willis G. Hunter (Cy) remained and operated Hunter Plumbing and Heating.

August, 1963 - Wilkes Truck Line bought out Ernie Kotaska.

August, 1963 - The Fashion Shop, 420 Briggs, operated by the Funks are holding their 8th anniversary sale.

September, 1963 - Work is under way on two new fair buildings.

September, 19, 1963 - Lorenz Mehrer opened his Red Owl Store in the new building - 101 Third St. W. Mr. Mahrer had bought the Red Owl Store from Lloyd Staven in March, 1951.

September, 1963 - It was announced that Polar Telephone will provide facilities for the missile sites.

December, 1963 - Sunny's Bar will be transferred to Gaylen Troftgruben, 316 Briggs.

December, 1963 - Attorney Lorene Whitesides Larson has moved into her new office building located at 305 Briggs Avenue South.

November 1, 1963 - Orville Hagen has sold out his interest in the Park River Implement to John Wild, 107-5th St. E.

January 30, 1964 - Mary and Harry Larson have purchased the Northside Grocery Store, Hwy 17 W., from Glen Cudmore. Mr. Cudmore will take over J.O. Severson's L.B. Hartz Store, 421 Briggs, on February 5.

March, 1964 - A ground breaking ceremony for the Park River and Pisek Missile Silo was held. Morrison-Knutson Company were the contractors.

March 18, 1964 - Mastre's Drive-In will open. Cliff Johnson operated it last year, Hwy, 17 E.

April 17, 1964 - The Park River stores decided to go to the Friday night opening.

April, 1964 - Lyons Auto Supply Store opened in the M.O. Johnson Building with Gerald Hall in as manager - 410 Briggs Ave. S.

April, 1964 - The H.E. Everson Company will open an auto supply wholesale store in the Landsborough Corner. Bob Eklund will be the manager, 322-324 Briggs.

April 1, 1964 - The Eyolfson Drug became a partnership - T.W. Eyolfson and Robert Getz. John Studsrud will be the manager, 409 Briggs.

May, 1964 - The first steel tube was delivered to the missile site southwest of Pisek.

June, 1964 - The Ritz Cafe and Seven Falls Drive Inn were listed as operated by Mrs. John Fitzsimmonds - (Winnifred Fail). Ritz, 321 Briggs.

August 3, 1964 - Art Rey took over the operation of the Coast to Coast Store, 422 Briggs.

August 14, 1964 - the Park River Repair Shop will close. It has been operated by William Bischoff who purchased the business from O.C. Stautz in 1942, 106-5th St. W.

October 8, 1964 - T.W. Eyolfson died. He was a son-in-law of Henry Anderson who has established the drug store, 409 Briggs.

December 4, 1964 - Eugene Kelner died. He was the owner of Gene's Tavern, 320 Briggs.

December 10, 1964 - Lorraine's Young World announced it is going out of business, 406 Briggs.

January 1, 1965 - Agnes and Baldy Falter buy out Lorraine's Young World from the Pedersons.

January, 1965 - The City Council takes the first step for a pipeline to Homme Dam.

February, 1965 - The Park River Variety will be the Ben Franklin Store under the same management, 401-403 Briggs.

February 8, 1965 - Falter's Childrens Wear opened, 406 Briggs.

March, 1965 - the Walsh Curling Club announced their plans are to build a club in Park River.

April 6, 1965 - Corinne and Casey Wang take over Gene's Tavern, 320 Briggs.

May 1, 1965 - Bert's Radio and TV Repair moves to Pisek.

April, 1965 - The Valley Furniture Store is closing, 318 Briggs.

July 1, 1965 - Harvey Loftsgard has purchased the Malde and Sharpe Hardware Store, 405 Briggs.

August 23, 1965 - Bill Erovick will open a grocery and meat market in the Bures Store - 407 Briggs Ave. So.

August, 1965 - Don Shaw opens Don's Iron Works.

October, 1965 - Mrs. Tim (Carol) Vavrosky is installed as acting postmistress.

October 13, 1965 - Bert's Radio and TV Repair will reopen at their same location, 104-5th St. W.

October 18, 1965 - Sam Ebbsen is retiring from business, 414 Briggs.

October 21, 1965 - The Grand Forks Seed Company has started a chemical, seed and fertilizer plant - Farmers Fertilizer Plant. Ray Linstad will be the manager. He had been with Midland for two years.

December 16, 1965 - the construction of the Curling Club building is nearing completion 120 Fifth St. W.

December, 1965 - The Falters have bought the Ebbsen building. It will be redecorated and they will move Falter's Childrens Wear into it, 414 Briggs.

.The Brodina Insurance Agency which has had an office in the Ebbsen Building will move to the Park River Bank Building along with Dr. Earl Infeld who will have an office in the same building, 406 Briggs.

January 3, 1966 - Ronnie Baumann has purchased the Standard Station from John Meagher, Hwy. and Briggs.

January, 1966 - George Dobmeier took over Sonny's Bar - 316 Briggs Avenue South.

March 1, 1966 - Kenneth Jacobson has purchased the Mobil Service Station from John Kelly, Hwy. 17 E.

March, 1966 - Daryl Rieck is the new manager of the Midland Custom Blend.

April, 1966 - The City Recreation Center will be dedicated - Curling Club, 120-5th St. W.

April 14, 1966 - Eddie Engelhart will open a furniture store in the Johnson Building at 318 Briggs Ave. So. Don Polucke will be the manager of Eddy's Furniture. It will also be the Park River Sewing Center.

May, 1966 - Jerry Smazik has closed his service station. He will retain the trailer park.

June, 1966 - Duane Halvorson has purchased Motel 17 from Ed Nickolay, Hwy. 17 E.

June, 1966 - Jack Thorfinson is the agent for the Pioneer Mutual Life Insurance Company.

June 30, 1966 - the Fashion Shop is for sale, 420 Briggs.

August, 1966 - J. Stanley Shaw has purchased Jerry's Ace Station. He will operate as S and R Texaco. Richard Gorde will be the manager, Hwy. 17 E.

June, 1966 - the Midget Lunch closed, 423 Briggs.

August, 1966 - Pat's Coin Shop opened where the Midget was located. (Pat Daley), 423 Briggs.

November 15, 1966 - the O.P. Olson Hardware store was destroyed by fire, 418 Briggs.

January 1, 1967 - M.B. (Dick) Overbye has announced he will discontinue ambulance service.

February 7, 1967 - Harold Falter's Bar has been sold to LeRoy Bischoff. Falter has operated the bar for the past 16 years at 323A Briggs Ave. So.

February 8, 1967 - Kenneth Fjeld opens Fjeld's Fashion Shop, 420 Briggs. The Funks had closed last fall.

March 1, 1967 - Farmers Fertilizer has open house.

April 3, 1967 - Silas Engebretson is the new manager of the Farmers Elevator. He replaces Duane Halvorson.

April 24, 1967 - George Olson will be the new manager of the Legion Steak House. He replaced George Sandy, 110-5th St. E.

May 1, 1967 - Ernie Osowski and Paul Wilkes have purchased Ron's Standard Service Station. It will be known as Ernie and Paul's, Hwy. 17 and Briggs.

May 14, 1967 - The City Hall was destroyed by fire - almost 30 years to the day of a previous fire.

June, 1967 - Collins Ready Mix Concrete plant is in operation one mile north of Park River.



Main Street - mid 1960's



West side of Main Street - Mid 1960's

June 30, 1967 - Marvin Agotness takes over the Lyric Theatre from J.J. Arnold, 416 Briggs.

July 1, 1967 - John Meagher has taken over the C.F. Harris bulk delivery-Cities Service.

August, 1967 - Ralph Pederson starts as postmaster at the local postoffice.

August, 1967 - The Farmers Elevator takes over the Midland Fertilizer Plant.

August, 1967 - The Park River Locker Plant moves from the Landsborough Building to new quarters on Hwy. 17 W.

September 21, 1967 - Larson Chevrolet moved into their new building on Hwy. 17 E. They started business in October, 1954.

September, 1967 - Ernie Harlow has purchased the Spornitz Shoe Repair equipment.

October 3, 1967 - Winnie's Cafe (formerly Ritz) was sold to Dan Uhlier and Dick Halvorson . (They continued in business until July, 1968), 321 Briggs.

October 23, 1967 - Duane Halvorson has purchased the Coast to Coast Store from Art Rey.

October 26, 1967 - Northland Chemical Company has leased the Phillips Anhydrous Ammonia Plant.

January 2, 1968 - Kemp's Body Shop is opened in the Lien Building on Hwy. 17 W. It had recently been vacated by Larson Chevrolet.

January 18, 1968 - Falter's Childrens Wear is going out of business, 414 Briggs.

January 10, 1968 - Glen's Grocery store was changed from L.B. Hartz to Fairway, 421 Briggs.



Main Street - Looking South - Mid 1960's.



Part of the front of Larson's Cafe on the west side of the street.

April 30, 1968 - Larson's Cafe will move from 413 Briggs Ave. So. across the street to 414 Briggs Ave. where the Falter's Childrens Wear was located in the Ebbesen Building. Neom Larson has purchased the building.

May, 1968 - William J. Botner has purchased the Park River Electric Construction from Sorensens. He will be located in the Midget Lunch Building, 423B Briggs.

May 9, 1968 - Les Kelly died. He had been a barber in Park River for many years. He was an avid sports promoter in our town, 408A Briggs.

May 25, 1968 - Robert Getz, owner of the Park River Rexall Store was killed in a two-car accident on the northern edge of Grand Forks on Highway 81.

June, 1968 - William Chromy has taken over Kelly's Barber Shop, 408A Briggs.

June, 1968 - Mrs. Kenneth (LaVonn) Bjornson is the new manager of the Legion Steak House. She replaced George Olson, 110-5th St. E.

June 28, 1968 - Fred Hultstrand died. He operated Hultstrand's Photography Studio, 104-4th St. W.

July 1, 1968 - Gerald Dobmeier bought LeRoy's Bar - 323A Briggs Avenue South.

July 8, 1968 - Paul McDonald has taken over the Texaco Service Station from Stanley Shaw, Hwy 17 E.

July, 1968 - Dr. Earl Infeld who has been coming to Park River one day a week will locate here. He will be using quarters in the Park River Bank Building, 406 Briggs.

September 27, 1968 - Grand Opening of the City Hall. The hall had been destroyed by fire on May 14, 1967.

October 1, 1968 - Because of Harold Harris' ill health the L.H. Harris Recreation was closed, 419 Briggs Ave. So. This enabled Glenn and Dody Cudmore to enlarge their grocery store by removing the wall between their location at 419 Briggs and 421 Briggs.

October 17, 1968 - The Coast to Coast store is enlarged and a new front built, 422 Briggs.

October, 1968 - Charles Snare of Snare Plumbing and Heating has left town.

October, 1968 - Fred Silliman died - he had operated the Silliman Implement Co.

November, 1968 - Ed Hogfoss and Jim Heggen opened a recreation center - Ed and Jim's - in the building which had been occupied by Larson's Cafe - 413 Briggs Ave. S.

January, 1969 - John Fitzsimmonds opened the Top Hat Bar, 316 Briggs. His wife, Winnie, is operating the Ritz Cafe, 321 Briggs.

January, 1969 - the King Koin Laundromat, 103-3rd St. W., was sold to Ed Evenson of Sheyenne, ND.

January, 1969 - Loftsgard Hardware has rented the Bures Building - 407 Briggs Ave. So.

January, 1969 - the Rexall Drug Store has built an addition to its building, 409 Briggs.

February 3, 1969 - M.B. Overbye sold his funeral home, 512-514 Briggs, to Martin Nygard and Harold Kamrowski.

March, 1969 - H.E. Everson closed their auto supply store located in Landsborough's corner, 322-324 Briggs.

April 1, 1969 - Louis Papenfuss and John Kelly purchased the Buick, Oldsmobile and International Harvester, Hwy. 17 W., from Elva Silliman. Fred Silliman had purchased from M.O. Johnson December 1, 1945.

April, 1969 - Lee's Dairy Queen and the West Side Drive Inn have opened for the season.

April 1, 1969 - Harold Anderson will manage the Walsh Center Creamery, 218-220 Briggs. Pete Schuman who has been the manager for the past 10 years is retiring.

April 7, 1969 - Ed Berreth is now the operator of the Texaco Station, Hwy. 17 E. He replaced Paul McDonald.

April 17, 1969 - Richard Frier is operating a Septic Tank Cleaning business.

May, 1969 - Paul Torgerson has bought Ken's Mobil Service Station from Kenneth Jacobson. Jacobson had taken over the Mobil bulk dealership from Louie Papenfuss, Hwy. 17 E.

May, 1969 - Mrs. Dan Stark is now operating Elaine's Cafe - formerly the Ritz Cafe run by Winnie Fitzsimmonds, 321 Briggs.

May, 1969 - the Club Bar has remodeled the front of their building, 412 Briggs.

May 15, 1969 - Charles Wilkes has opened an antique shop.

June 1, 1969 - Ernie Torfin sold his bakery to B.L. (Sonny) Welch of Cando, 402 Briggs.

June 11, 1969 - Theodore Loftsgard retired as manager of Dundee Insurance.

August 11, 1969 - Ken Johnson from Crookston will open a photo shop in Hultstrand's location, 104-4th St. W.

August, 1969 - the Standard Station is now listed as Paul's - not Ernie and Paul's.

September 11, 1969 - there was an ad for Cook's Radiator Repair Shop.

September 25, 1969 - the Park River Ready Mix will be distributors of Arctic Cat.

November 13, 1969 - The City will open a 100' x 140' parking lot south of the Bank - 4 lots.

December 4, 1969 - Bill Botner of the Park River Electric bought the Park River Mission Building located south of the Overbye Funeral Home - 518 Briggs Ave. So.

December, 1969 - Jim Heggen is the sole proprietor of Jim's Recreation, 413 Briggs.

February, 1970 - The ABM work force will reach 2200 persons.

March 12, 1970 - Polar Telephone plans to bury all cables.

March 7, 1970-500 pioneer photos of Hultstrand's were donated to NDSU.

April 2, 1970 - Polar Telephone plans to double their work force.

April 10, 1970 - Farmers Union Fertilizer and the Park River Lumber have both constructed additions to their space.

April, 1970 - Fjeld's Fashion Shop is going out of business, 420 Briggs.

April 16, 1970 - the SKM Corporation was formed - W.C. Skjerven, Gerald (Bud) Sobolik, Henry Kelly, Lorenz Mahrer and Jake Maier. Their project for the present is cable TV.

May 28, 1970 - It was predicted that Park River could get 300 permanent residents from the ABM.

July 1, 1970 - The ban on any burning in the City begins.

July, 1970 - the Farmers Union Oil Company celebrated their 25th anniversary, 109-5th St. W.

July 1, 1970 - the Park River Livestock Sales Pavilion, Inc. was sold to three men... from Rugby - Kenneth Solberg, Kenneth Matteran and Dennis Bengtson. Bengtson will be the manager. Wilkes had been the manager for six years and McEnroe the last 8 years. The new name will be the Park River Livestock Sales, Inc.

July, 1970 - Landsborough's corner will be occupied by Zurn, a company that will put in the pipe line for ABM, 322-324 Briggs.

July, 1970 - Susan Cramer took over the Ritz Cafe from Elaine Stark, 321 Briggs.

July, 1970 - Wally Skjoldal has opened a body shop in the old Lien Building, Hwy. 17 W.

August 13, 1970 - the ad shows Cook's Repair Shop is located at the rear of Lorene Larson's Law office, 305 Briggs.

August, 1970 - the Wilkes truck line has been sold to Andy Seim. Wilkes had it since quitting the Sales Barn and buying out Ernie Kotaska.

August, 1970 - Sharold Stromli is to be the manager of the American Legion Lounge, 112-5th St. E.

September, 1970 - Lloyd Staven has purchased the Olson Hardware building - 418 Briggs Ave. So. It will be remodeled to be used for a dental clinic.

October, 1970 - Jack Thorfinson has opened an insurance office in the building formerly Walt's TV Shop, just north of the postoffice, 307 Briggs.

October, 1970 - The Windsor Hotel was sold by Esther Knutson to the SKM Corporation.

October, 1970 - The Farmers Union Anhydrous Fertilizer Plant opened. It is a part of the Farmers Union Oil Company.

October, 1970 - Lowell Anderson will open Hultstrand's Studio on November 2, 1970, 104-4th St. W.

November 8, 1970 - is apparently the last ad for Bert's TV Repair.

December, 1970 - Dr. Gerald Dahl is listed with the Sturlaugson Veterinary Clinic.

December 7, 1970 - John Wild sold the Park River Implement Company to Harold Oppegard of Gilby. It is the John Deere dealership, Hwy. 17 W.

December 18, 1970 - Dick O'Shea opened Ski-Doo firm north of KAP's

January 1, 1971 - Jake Maier bought Casey's (tavern located at 320 Briggs Ave. So.). Jake will leave the Farmers Union Oil Company on March 1, 1971.

January, 1971 - Polar Telephone has announced that this area will have free direct phone service to Edinburg and Grafton.

February, 1971 - Dr. R.W. Baldwin, dentist, is moving into the new dental clinic building recently purchased and renovated by Lloyd Staven, 418 Briggs Ave. So.

February, 1971 - An ad appears for Gerry's Radio Sales, Gerald Huebner, owner. Citizens Band Radios for sale.

February, 1971 - Charles Schmaltz is the agent for the Farmers Union Insurance.

April 12, 1971 - Lavern Topp will come from Jamestown to be the new manager of the Farmers Union Oil Company, replacing Jake Maier who retired. The Farmers Union Fertilizer will be managed by Arvi Koski.

April 22, 1971 - Radio repair work is added at Paul Wilkes Standard Service Station.

June 10, 1971 - Glen and Dody Cudmore have bought the Ben

Franklin Store from Argetsingers. The Argetsingers have operated the store for 34 years and had bought the business from Nels Haugen who had operated the store for 27 years, 401-403 Briggs.

June 24, 1971 - Charles Youngquist is the new manager of the Legion Steak House. He follows LaVonn Bjornson who has operated it since 1967, 112-5th St. E.

August 1, 1971 - Ed's Texaco Service is closing on this date. Ed Berreth is the owner., Hwy. 17 E.

August 1, 1971 - Richard and Sandy Frier will take over the Texaco Service Station, Highway 17 East.

August 5, 1971 - SKM Corporation takes sign-ups for cable TV.

August 23, 1971 - Duane Guenther is the new owner of Glen Cudmore's Fairway Store. It will now operate as a Jack and Jill Store, 419-421 Briggs.

August 23, 1971 - Ed Berreth has bought Paul Wilkes' Standard Station, Hwy. 17 and Briggs.

August, 1971 - Mary and Frank Jarus are managers of the Windsor Hotel.

September, 1971 - it was announced that Montana-Dakota Utilities will have natural gas here within a year's time.

September 7, 1971 - the Kensington subdivision is incorporated into Park River - it is located east of the cemeteries along Highway 17.

September 7, 1971 - Potato Sales opens in the Landsborough corner - Rossford Johnson, George Higgins and Orian Fjestad, 322-324 Briggs.

September 23, 1971 - Clair Clemetson died. Selma, his wife, takes over the operation of the Club Bar, 412 Briggs.

October, 1971 - Eldon Syrup opened Polaris Sales in the old furniture store building, 318 Briggs.

October 22, 1971 - Paul Wilkes opened Paul's Radio and TV in quarters formerly occupied by the Top Hat Bar - 316 Briggs Ave. So.

November 1, 1971 - the Ritz Cafe, 321 Briggs, is now operated by Mrs. Harold Johnson, nee Jackie Fitzsimmonds, granddaughter of Alvina Fail, from Mrs. Norman (Susan) Cramer.

November, 1971 - Dr. Tim Percarpio, dentist, came to Park River and established a practice, sharing the building with Dr. R.W. Baldwin, 418 Briggs.

December, 1971 - Park River plans to petition for a new census report in June, 1972.

January 6, 1972 - Katherine and Norman Hornberger purchase the King Koin Launderette, 103-3rd St. W., from Phyllis and Ed Evenson. The Launderette has been in operation since November, 1959.

January 11, 1972 - Sven T. (Sam) Ebbsen, 88, died on Friday. He had resided in Park River since 1911 and had been in the clothing and tailoring business for 50 years. His wife died in 1961.

February 3, 1972 - Dr. V.S. Irvine, 82, who practiced medicine in Park River until 1943, died at Lidgerwood.

February 3, 1972 - Park River voters of School District 78 gave overwhelming support to the merger of the grade school and the Walsh County Agricultural School.

February 17, 1972 - Robert Mastre has returned to Park River from Phoenix, Az. to assume the operation of Mastre's Trailer Court. His mother, Norma Mastre, has been operating it since the death of Vernon Mastre in April, 1971.

March 2, 1972 - Claude Simmons takes over operation of Texaco Service Station. It will be known as Claude's Texaco, Hwy. 17 E.

March 9, 1972 - Ernest Berger, 64, died. Ernie had been associated with Skjerven's Garage the past 44 years and was a volunteer fireman for 22 years.

May, 1972 - Mrs. Helen Olson, owner of Olson's Floral of Grafton, has opened a shop in the Windsor Hotel, 319 Briggs.

June, 1972 - Bert Senecal, 58, died Friday at Park River. He came to Park River about 10 years ago and operated Bert's Radio and TV Shop, 104 5th Street West.

June 29, 1972 - Bickford H. Hobbs retired last Friday afternoon as a postoffice employee. He started on April 1, 1941.

June 29, 1972 - For the first time in history Park River has over 2,000 people. A special census just completed listed 2,052 residents compared to 1,680 in the 1970 census.

June 29, 1972 - Henry and Georgette Kelly are the owners of the Park River's 89-year old weekly newspaper, 404 Briggs. They are successors to Rosamond and her late husband, Harry O'Brien.

July 13, 1972 - New Municipal Airport planned for Park River, featuring Paved Runway.

August 3, 1972 - Sale of the building on 406 Briggs Ave. next to the Press office was announced this week by Mrs. Rosamond (O'Brien) Lowe of Grand Forks, to Dr. and Mrs. Earl Infeld. Dr. Infeld, optometrist, has had his office in the building for several years.

August 17, 1972 - Paul's Radio and TV of Park River has changed locations...transferring from the building immediately south of Dr. Phyllis W. Cowger's office to the building owned by the late Mr. Bert Senecal, 104-5th St. W. Paul Wilkes has operated a television and radio sales and service shop here since last November.

August 31, 1972 - Larson's Cafe has the distinction of being the first customer in the history of Park River to be served by natural gas according to a statement by Arvid Brockman, Park River's service representative for Montana-Dakota Utilities.

September, 1972 - City spent \$400,000 for improvements including curb, gutter, sewer, water and paving in various subdivisions.

October, 1972 - Bill Botner, owner of Park River Electric Construction, has purchased a building in Kensington addition to use as offices, display and warehouse, Hwy. 17 E.

October, 1972 - The Ritz Cafe, owned and operated by members of the Joe Fail family since 1942, closed and the building is for sale or rent, 321 Briggs.

November, 1972 - Michael Mahrer, recent employee of a Phoenix, Arizona insurance firm, has joined his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lorenz Mahrer, in the operation of the Park River Red Owl Store, 101-3rd St. W.

In early 1973 the town boasted: Top schools; City Library; Two respected and busy attorneys; six churches; Rena Hansen Memorial Home for senior citizens; a weekly newspaper going to 2200 homes; two Federated women's clubs as well as Homemakers Clubs, 4-H Clubs, FHA Club, FFA Club, Toastmasters Club, Commercial Club, Jaycees, Mrs. Jaycees, American Legion and other groups for community service. A complete dry cleaning plant and a modern and well-equipped coin-operated laundromat. Park River headquartered telephone company; the town is served by natural gas for both residential and commercial use; a creamery turning out the best of fresh and tasty dairy products - locally processed and distributed; one of the best Dairy Queens in the country; airport, crop spraying service and charter flights; four snowmobile dealers; mobile feed service; ready-mix plant; wholesale auto supply store; two truck lines; livestock auction market; two high-producing and aggressive fertilizer plants; several high-volume potato washer and packing plants; two electrical firms; two plumbing and heating and air conditioning firms; one septic tank cleaning company; two of the best lumber yards in the state. A 45-bed St. Ansgar Hospital; medical clinic with two

doctors; volunteer community ambulance service; ultra-modern dental clinic with two dentists; chiropractor and optometrist. A Rexall Drug store; one of the largest and finest Veterinary Clinics in the state. All major car and truck dealers - Ford and Mercury; Chevrolet, Dodge, Buick, Oldsmobile and Opel, GMC and International. Four body repair shops and an auto salvage firm; John Deere and IHC Implement dealers; a complete children, women's and men's department store; an excellent men's clothing store; two top-notch hardware stores, two TV sales and service firms; cable TV firm; 12-unit comfortable motel; 32 room hotel, old, but neat, and priced reasonable; full service bank; aggressive real estate firm; two modern supermarkets; one neighborhood grocery, a new and ultra-modern locker plant; five Park River-based insurance agencies; four major oil and gasoline bulk dealers; five aggressive and well-equipped service stations; three beauty shops; two barber shops; a beautiful nine-hole golf course; ice skating and hockey facilities in the Fair Arena; a theatre with wide screen; huge, heated 4-rink curling club; excellent 6-lane bowling alley with billiards and cafe; two swimming pools - one is heated, both located in large and well-planned park; two mammoth grain elevators; one attractive family style cafe; on comfortable steak house; four lounges for your relaxation and a recreation parlor for card playing, billiards, etc.; several house building and commercial construction firms; a hometown bakery; 3 courts for mobile homes; flower and gift shop; a funeral home offering dignified and concerned assistance.

January 25, 1973 - Open house planned for new Walsh County Extension Office built on the west edge of the City.

March 22, 1973 - Tollefson Funeral Home, Hwy. 17 W., opens facility in Park River. Paul Coler will be the resident mortician.

March 29, 1973 - Polar Telephone accepts \$468,000 bid on office and warehouse addition.

April 26, 1973 - James Veralrud is new manager for Farmers Union Oil, 109-5th St. W. He replaces Laverne Topp who moved to Jamestown.

July 19, 1973 - The new 9-hole golf course was opened.

August 16, 1973 - Halvorson's Coast to Coast Store will be expanded. A 24 x 50' addition is planned for the rear of the store, 422 Briggs.

September 27, 1973 - Ken Jacobson purchases Mastre Mobile Court. Prior to purchasing the Mobil Bulk Oil Agency Ken owned and operated the Mobil Service Station for about 2 years. In addition to the 40-unit Mobile Home Court, Jacobson will continue to operate the bulk oil agency.

October 4, 1973 - Richard Gorde bought Paul's Mobil Service Station, Hwy. 17 E.

October 4, 1973 - Agnes Richotte and Delia Hanson closed the West Side Drive Inn after operating it for 16 years, Hwy. 17 W. Park River Lumber purchased the property.

October 11, 1973 - Service Cleaners, 513 Briggs, in Park River sold Monday to Pat and Stella DeLeon. Ralph A. Pederson handed the keys to the new owners. Ralph started the cleaners in 1946.

October 25, 1973 - Ida Finneseth died at age 88. The family came to Park River in 1884 and her father had the first hardware store here. The brick building which still stands on Briggs Ave. (presently the bakery) was built in 1898. Ida worked in this store with her brother until 1942 when she moved to California.

November 29, 1973 - For Sale - 28 room Windsor Hotel. Contact SKM Enterprises, c-o Lorenz Mahrer.

December 6, 1973 - Winten Gunderson has been named manager of the Polar Telephone Company effective January 1, 1974 to succeed John G. Walters who plans to retire that date.

December 13, 1973 - Dakota Fried Chicken preparing to open. It is owned by Ready Mix Corporation - The Collins boys: Cliff, Marvin, Ray and Rodney. The structure is 36' x 60'.

December 20, 1973 - Iza Parke died at age 73. She served as teller for the First State Bank from August 1, 1927 until she retired January 1, 1966. Iza died in St. Paul where she had lived with her sister the last two months. She died on Monday, 10 days after her 73rd birthday.

February, 1974 - Rosamond O'Brien Lowe, former editor and publisher of the Walsh County Press, died at the age of 69.

February, 1974 - The First State Bank, 501-503 Briggs, of Park River held a grand opening for their new drive-in banking window.

March, 1974 - Brothers, Ernie and Fabian Shoults, purchased the Dairy Queen from Gib Lee, Hwy. 17 E.

March, 1974 - Dakota Fried Chicken Restaurant had its grand opening. (Highway 17 West).

June, 1974 - the Denny Mason family moved to Virginia, Mn. Denny was replaced by Loren R. Miller from Wheaton, MN, who became the new vice president of the First State Bank in Park River.

June, 1974 - John Meagher bought the Mobil Service Station in Park River, Hwy. 17 E.

July, 1974 - Richard (Dick) Wilhelmi was named assistant vice president of the First State Bank in Park River.

September, 1974 - A local 12-man delegation testified before the State Bank Board supporting an application by Gate City Savings and Loan of Fargo to establish a branch office here.

October, 1974 - The American Legion decided at a special meeting to construct a new \$100,000 steak house.

November, 1974 - Polar Telephone Company held an open house for their new headquarters addition, 110-4th St. E.

November, 1974 - Approximately 600 people were at Gate City Savings and Loan during its grand opening...the temporary office being in the building formerly occupied by Anderson Photography (Hultstrand's Studio). Tom Grahm is manager of the office, 104-4th St. W.

December, 1974 - Paul Torgerson purchased Shaw's Trailer Court and the Texaco Service in Park River from Adeline and J. Stanley Shaw, Hwy. 17 E.

December, 1974 - Charles Lindell purchased the Mobil Feed Service from John and Lavelda Waslaski.

January 2, 1975 - Congratulations and Best Wishes to Judy and Junior Veralrud on purchasing the Northside Grocery from Mary and Harry Larson. (Highway 17 West).

February 6, 1975 - Assuming proprietorship of the new Dug-Out Bar in Park River on Monday, February 3, was Gary Budish. Located on "main street" the Dug-Out was formerly called Jim's Recreation - owned and operated by Jim Heggen of Park River since 1968. (413 Briggs Ave. S.)

February 27, 1975 - Harold R. Anderson who has managed the Walsh Center Creamery here since April, 1969, has resigned his position and will lease the Dakota Fried Chicken Restaurant on Highway 17 West, effective March 1. He will not renew the Dakota Fried Chicken franchise. The restaurant will now be known as "The Guest House, "

March 20, 1975 - Gate City Savings and Loan will build a new office in Park River. They have purchased the property formerly known as the late Harold V. Dougherty residence on main street - 201 Briggs Ave. So.

March 20, 1975 - Dahl Construction plans to construct a seven unit office building in the Kensington Subdivision. Plans are to have the building ready for occupancy the last part of May. Requests for rental space may be directed to owner, Ronald

Dahl. (Highway 17 E.)

April 10, 1975 - New Motel, Lounge and Package Liquor Store planned for Park River. Construction is expected to get underway by June 1. It will be situated on the north side of Highway 17, about ½ block west of John Meagher's trailer court, Hwy 17 W.

July 3, 1975 - King Koin Launderette has been sold by Katherine and Norman Hornberger to Bonnie and Virgil Wehri of Grand Forks, 103-3rd St. W.

August 7, 1975 - Gate City starts work on new office building, 201 Briggs.

August 7, 1975 - Work starts on 79-bed Good Samaritan Home in Park River, County Road W.

August 25, 1975 - Russell Kihne of Cavalier is planning to construct a car wash in Park River on a site immediately east of the new motel under construction on Highway 17 on the western edge of the city. The 3-stall car wash is planned to be operational by March 15.

September 4, 1975 - Construction is underway on a new \$90,000 sunflower and grain storage facility for the Farmers Union Co-op Elevator. The building is located on the north edge of the city on the Burlington Northern Railway spur.

September 18, 1975 - Bus Service for the elderly in Walsh County will operate out of Park River.

December 11, 1975 - Dr. D. Paul D'Arcy from Ireland plans to join Dr. Piltingsrud and Dr. Barrie in the practice of medicine.

December 11, 1975 - Hillcrest Pizza and Pastry shop opened in former Ritz Cafe building. Don, Tom and James Goebel of Grafton are owners, 321 Briggs.

December 18, 1975 - Grand Opening - Porter's Transmission Service located 3 miles west of Park River.

December 25, 1975 - John Meagher and Ken Jacobson switch businesses - John Meagher who has owned and operated Meagher's Oil Company (independent service station and bulk oil dealership) traded business with Ken Jacobson, owner and operator of Jacobson's Trailer Court located on the eastern edge of the City, south of Highway 17. Ken will serve as an unbranded Gulf Oil jobber for his bulk dealership, and the service station on Highway 17 East will be known as Ken's Service.

Business of 1975 included:

Loftsgard Hardware; Park River Electric Construction, William Botner, Prop.; G & D Variety (Glen and Dody Cudmore); Farmers Fertilizer Co., Ray Linstad, mgr.; E. Larson and Sons; Porter's Auto Repair and Salvage, Ken Porter; Samson Electric; Oppegard Equipment Company - John Deere, Don Oppegard, partner and manager; Hunter's Plumbing and Heating; Walsh County Press; Sportsman's Bar, Gerald Dobmeier, prop.; Park River Legion Club; Larson Chevrolet Co.; Larson's Cafe; Dug-Out Bar - Gary Budish, prop.; Montana-Dakota Utilities, Arvid Brockman; Park River Veterinary Clinic; Ed's Standard Service Station; Johnson Store, Wendell White, mgr.; First State Bank; Windsor Hotel, Marcy and Frank Jarus; Robertson Lumber Co.; Bateman Motors; Overbye Funeral Home, Marty Nygard, director; Dr. Earl Infeld, optometrist; Melvin's Store for Men; Dahl Construction; The Guest House, Harold Anderson, prop.; Gate City Savings and Loan Association, Tom Graham, manager; Potato Sales, Inc. - Rossford Johnson, George Higgins, Orian Fjestad; Skjerven's Garage; Park River Locker Plant; Park River Rexall Drug; Park River Clinic (Drs. Piltingsrud and Barrie); Park River Livestock Sales, Inc., Dennis Bengtson, manager; Jack Thorfinson, Pioneer Mutual Life Insurance; Lyric Theatre, Marvin Agotness, prop.; Bowl-Mor Lanes; Merle Onstad, Standard Bulk Dealer; The Club Bar and Lounge, Selma



The Club - 412 Briggs Larson's Cafe - 414 Briggs

Clemetson, prop.; KAP, Inc. - John Kelly and Louis Papenfuss; Farmers Union Elevator, Harold Garnaas, mgr.; King Koin Launderette - Bonnie and Virgil Wehri; Olson's Flowers; Duane's Jack and Jill Grocery Store - Duane Guenther, prop.; Bernie's Spray Service - Burnell Troftgruben; Park River Lumber, Inc.; Alibi Bar and Lounge, Paul Hankey, prop.; Paul's Service and Mobil Bulk, Paul Torgerson; Meagher Oil Co., John Meagher, prop.; Polar Telephone; Burbidge Seed Co., Arden Burbidge and Bob Knudson; Mahrer's Red Owl; Motel 17 and Coast to Coast Store, Shirley and Duane Halvorson, owners; Northside Grocery - Junior and Judy Veralrud; Meberg Potato Co.; Park River Potato Company; Farmers Union Oil Co.; J.R. Simplot Co., Henry Larson, mgr.; Park River Ready Mix - Ray, Marvin, Rodney and Cliff Collins; Service Cleaners; Farmers Elevator, Mervin Olsen, mgr.; Dundee Insurance Co.; Frank's Service.

Toward the end of 1975 Park River was making explosive progress. It included nearly 50 new homes in the community; new 12-plex constructed; the arrival of Gate City Savings and Loan Association who will have a new building opened by January, 1976; the start of a new 23-room motel, lounge and package liquor store with opening slated for around January, 1976; the selection of Park River by the giant J.R. Simplot Co. of Idaho as the home for a million dollar potato storage plant this year; the start two weeks ago by St. Ansgar's Hospital on a renovation project over the next 3-5 years; the beginning of construction about three weeks ago on a million dollar 79-bed Good Samaritan Nursing Home with opening planned for August, 1976; the extensive remodeling of the First State Bank building during the past year; the adding of about 1300 square feet to the Coast to Coast Store; a huge addition to the Polar Telephone Company's headquarters office here...the firm employs about 130 persons; the installation of a new mobile home court on the western edge of the city by John Meagher; new car wash to be built by March, 1976; addition underway on the drug store; construction started on new blacktop airport which will be completed by next summer; the lowering and blacktopping of Highway 17 going through Park River with brilliant new lighting system on both east and west entrances to the city slated for completion this fall; extensive plant additions to KAP, Inc. (International Harvester, GMC, Olds and Buick) and Oppgaard Equipment Co. (John Deere); remodeling of the Park River Grade School; blacktopping of county road north of Park River; and the contemplation of a 40-apartment complex by HUD.

Park River is one of the few communities in the state to be

blessed with all types of fuel for heating, power, etc. Reputable and dependable fuel oil dealers will always keep you supplied with prompt deliveries of oil and propane. If you have electrical heat, the City of Park River will never let your house get cold. Or if you prefer natural gas, our new addition to the business community, Montana-Dakota Utilities, will welcome a chance to serve you efficiently and competitively.

If your home or store needs winterproofing, Park River's two lumber yards and numerous building contractors have the materials and know-how to make your home more comfortable.

Park River stores with the best-known lines of wearing apparel have everything you need for a complete fall and winter wardrobe. We boast a huge department store plus a men's clothing store.

You can eat to keep healthy and happy with the vast array of groceries, good meats and fresh fruits and vegetables always available in Park River's three fine food stores and our outstanding bakery.

Park River auto and machine dealers, garages and service stations have the equipment, personnel and eagerness to serve to keep your automobiles and trucks operating under the most adverse weather conditions. They can get them set for winter at competitive prices. Or if it's a new 1975 (and soon the 1976) car or truck you want, you've got a swell choice. The same goes for used vehicles and machinery.

When weather keeps you indoors, Park River television, cable TV and Radio service men will see that you have the latest news and greatest entertainment available with the twist of a knob. Fall and winter weeks will pass quickly in Park River where a 6-lane bowling alley, curling rink, indoor ice skating rink and modern theatre always provide enjoyable recreation.

No one needs to travel more than a few in blocks in Park River to find anything they need for comfortable living...furniture, jewelry, hardware, household appliances, dry cleaning, self-service laundry, insurance of all kinds, plumbing and heating service, grain elevators, implement shops, three mobile home courts, ready mix plant, potato wash and storage plants, certified seed firm, a bank, savings and loan office, credit union, snowmobile sales, mobile home sales, etc. With shops staffed by professional barbers and beauticians anyone in Park River can always look their best.

Busy and highly competent doctors and dentists, a wonderful hospital and a fine drug store are assurance that everyone who isn't well will promptly get well in Park River. The city also boasts an ultra-modern Veterinary Clinic staffed by three excellent animal doctors. For a home away from home, Park River people can enjoy delicious meals and lunches in two excellent restaurants, as well as the tasty menus at the Dairy Queen, Bowl-Mor lunch counter and accommodations for their overflow guests in a comfortable hotel and gracious modern 12-unit motel.

There is always something special going on at the Park River Grade School and the Park River High School where everyone is invited to participate by enjoying football games, basketball games, hockey games, musical programs and plays.

January, 1976 - Approximately 2500 letters were mailed out to graduates of the Park River High School and the Walsh County Agricultural School, inviting them and their spouses to attend an all-class reunion on Friday, July 2, 1976.

January, 1976 - Duane S. Halvorson purchased the sole ownership of the Coast to Coast Store in Park River from his partner, Art Rey of Lisbon, ND, 422 Briggs Ave.

February 19, 1976 - Annie O'Brien retires from Main Street Career which was devoted to cafe and clinic. Annie started

working - her first employment was a job at the Farmers Security Bank which she started on February 1, 1921. She continued her job there until February 1, 1926. She married C.E. (Chike) O'Brien on February 3, 1926 and she went to work in their cafe, O'Brien's Cafe, located where the Dug-Out Bar is now located. They continued in the cafe business for 20 years. After Chike and Annie sold their cafe in 1946 Annie went to work as a bookkeeper for the Park River Clinic which was located over the Rexall Drug Store. The Clinic moved to the Staven Building on June 25, 1957. She has worked for several doctors during her 30 years at the clinic - Dr. Frank Weed, Dr. Bruce Boynton, Dr. H.R. Piltingsrud, Dr. James O'Toole and Dr. J.G. Barrie. Chike, Annie's companion for 46 years died in 1972.

February, 1976 - It was reported that Polar Telephone Corporation would probably lose half of its 120 employees due to the deactivation of the ballistic missile defense operations and related military systems in northeastern North Dakota.

February, 1976 - Dr. Paul D'Arcy began his practice at the Park River Clinic, 424 Briggs.

March, 1976 - For the first time in its 95-year history the Walsh County Press changed its publication day from Thursday of each week to Wednesday.

March 24, 1976 - James (Jim) Worley has been named the administrator of the Good Samaritan Nursing Home.

May, 1976 - Excavation began for the preparation of the site for 40 low-rent apartment units in the northwestern corner of the City of Park River.

June 9, 1976 - Jim Hobbs buys Sportsman's Bar from Gerald Dobmeier effective July 1. Gerald has operated the business the past 8 years, having purchased the business from Harold (Baldy) Falter, 323 Briggs Ave. So.

June 16, 1976 - Albert and Dorothy Gillespie will open their ultra-modern 3-acre Spring Street Campsite located one block north and two blocks east of the Dairy Queen.

June 23, 1976 - Olson's Flower Shop has been sold by Helen Olson to Mr. and Mrs. Rodney Demers of Grafton. The shop is located in the Windsor Hotel, 319 Briggs Ave. So.

August 11, 1976 - Stephen L. Currie has joined Roy A. Neste's Law Firm effective October 18, 313 Briggs.

September 15, 1976 - The Jack and Jill Supermarket Food Store has been sold by Duane Guenther to 33-year old Roger Hall who has managed the Jack and Jill Supermarket in Bismarck. The change-over became effective Monday, September 13, 419-421 Briggs Ave. So.

September 15, 1976 - Wallace T. Rygh has opened a CPA Office. He is from Grand Forks.

September 15, 1976 - The Farmers Union Oil Company has hired a new manager to replace DeMars Peterson who left to manage the Farmers Union Oil Company at Rochester, MN. The new manager is Ervin Miller, who comes here from Ada, MN.

October 20, 1976 - New Farm Supply Store to open February in Park River. The firm will be owned and operated by Harlan Olson and will be located on the Western edge of the city, Hwy. 17 W.

November 10, 1976 - Mrs. Richard Larson (Laurie Walstad) will be managing pharmacist in the new drug store to be opened sometime next spring. It will be known as "Ye Olde Medicine Shoppe." It is to be located on Hwy. 17 W.

Now, at the end of 1976 history has been made. Consumer prices have continued to rise but farm income, which is vital to Park River and the rest of North Dakota, is in sad shape. Grain prices and potato prices are way down and prospects for rising are gloomy. This past year saw the scantest amount of rainfall in most of Walsh County since the Dirty 30's and had many

survivors of the "Depression Era" predicting doom and gloom. However, it must be added that rains came to most of Walsh County at almost the last minute to save the crops. The results were almost phenomenal.

In spite of the drop in yields and prices from the previous "boom years" of the 1970's, the area has continued to grow. The population of Park River is estimated to have climbed over 2200; farms keep getting larger and more expensive...cash rent for grain farming ranges on the average from \$30 to \$50 per acre and cash rent for beet and potato land ranges on the average from \$50 to \$60, although there have been isolated instances of some cash rent for potatoes and beets going for around \$100 per acre. If land rent seems high, buying it is Walsh County is no bargain basement deal either. There have been several quarters sold for over \$200,000.

1976 for Park River saw the opening of the Good Samaritan Center, the opening of the new 19-room Alexander House Motel, Lounge, Package Store and Dining Room; the opening of the new Gate City Savings and Loan office; the opening a few weeks ago of the new 40-apartment HUD complex; the opening of the new blacktop Municipal Airport; the start of construction on a second new drug store; the beginning of construction of a new farm supply store in Park River; the completion and operation of the Park River Sports Center; the completion of a new fertilizer and ag supply firm; the construction of a new grain drying plant by the Farmers Union Co-op Elevator.

January, 1977 - Wally Rygh, a Park River Certified Public Accountant, opened a branch office at Adams.

February, 1977 - Park River Rexall druggist Keith Kjelland joined the Getz Rexall Drug Store in Grafton as pharmaceutical inventory controller and pharmacist. Tom McEwen replaced Kjelland here in Park River, 409 Briggs.

February 16, 1977 - Edward Palmer of Great Falls, Montana is the new cashier at the First State Bank of Park River. He replaces Richard Wilhelmi who was named vice president of the First National Bank in Blue Earth, MN.

March 6, 1977 - Ye Olde Medicine Shoppe will hold its grand opening on Friday and Saturday, March 18 and 19. The co-owners are Laurie Walstad Larson and Dave Jorgenson. The store is located on Highway 17 W.

March 30, 1977 - The City of Park River has accepted the low bid of \$130,820.60 by Joe Mayo and Son of Cavalier to install curb, gutter and paving on the most eastern street in Kensington Addition and the entire area in Dahl's South Ridge Addition.

April 6, 1977 - After 27 years, Neome Larson slows down; her son, Dayton, takes over operation of cafe, 414 Briggs Ave. So. Neome bought the building nine years ago from Harold Falter.

April 20, 1977 - Olson Farm Store opened Saturday. It is owned by Harlan Olson and is located on Highway 17 W.

April 20, 1977 - Calmer Groven is the new owner of The Dug-Out Bar, 413 Briggs Ave. So. Gary Budish was the former owner.

May 4, 1977 - St. Ansgar Hospital to mark Silver Anniversary.

May 4, 1977 - The Guest House was formerly called Dakota Fried Chicken. Harold Anderson is now renting the building from Park River Ready Mix with an option to buy, Hwy 17 W.

May 25, 1977 - Park River Sales Barn is sold. Don Nowell from Goodrich, ND purchased the Livestock Auction Market recently from Dennis Bengtson. Bengtson has owned and operated the market for seven years, after purchasing it from Larry McEnroe.

June 8, 1977 - Dundee Insurance moves into new office building, 303 Briggs Ave. So.

June 22, 1977 - MDU has over 400 hook-ups since coming to Park River in 1972.

June 22, 1977 - Harold Garnaas is honored for 25 years of service as manager of the Farmers Union Co-op Elevator.

July 6, 1977 - Egnar Malm died at age 84. He operated the Golden Valley Creamery here in Park River from 1933 until 1942 when he sold to Glen Borg. He had lived in California since he left Park River in 1942.

July 13, 1977 - Paul Samson is now associated with his father, Wes, in Samson Electric.

September 28, 1977 - Bob Knudson organized a potato brokerage firm in Park River. It will be the Knudson Co. headquartered in the Dahl office complex on the eastern edge of the city.

October 5, 1977 - KAP, Inc. will hold an open house on Thursday in the remodeled building.

November, 1977 - A fire at the Farmers Elevator Company was confined to the cupola area at the top of the 120' structure.

December 12, 1977 - Park River's new furniture store, Dick's Carpet and Furniture, officially opened its doors, 318 Briggs Ave. So.

March 15, 1978 - The Overbye Funeral Home in Park River and the Kamrowski-Nygard Funeral Home in Grafton have been purchased by Terrance Henriksen of Rugby. Both firms will retain their present business names. Joseph Waslaski, a Langdon native, will be the director of the Overbye Funeral Home, 512-514 Briggs.

March 29, 1978 - Dr. D.P. (Paul) D'Arcy, 31 year old native of Belfast, Ireland who has been associated with the Park River Clinic for the past two years will leave with his family today for Peoria, Illinois to take a post with St. Francis Hospital there.

March 29, 1978 - Wages Motor and Farm Supply will have their grand opening on Saturday, April 1. They are located in the Ritz Cafe Building, 321 Briggs Ave. So.

April 5, 1978 - Congratulations to the Farmers Union Oil Company on their new center located on Highway 17 East.

April 12, 1978 - Jim Worley, who has served as administrator of the Good Samaritan Center here since its opening nearly two years ago has purchased the State Farm Insurance Agency of Park River from Tim Vavrosky, Sr. The change-over will become effective May 1.

June 7, 1978 - Bruce A. Stratman has been named administrator of Park River's Good Samaritan Center. He is taking over the position previously held by Jim Worley who resigned to become a State Farm Insurance Agent in Park River.

June 7, 1978 - Gary Johnson of Holt, MN has accepted the position as manager of the Farmers Elevator Company in Park River.

June 14, 1978 - Announcement was made of the sale of Bateman Motors to Rose Ann and Steve Erickson. The Bateman Motors was the Ford-Mercury dealership in Park River for over 40 years, 302-304 Briggs Ave. S.

June 21, 1978 - The G & D Variety Store is sold to Wayne Jenson of Cavalier effective the first part of July. The Cudmores will retain ownership of the store building. The Cudmores have operated their independent Variety Store since 1971 when they purchased the building and a Ben Franklin franchise from Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Argetsinger. The Cudmores have been in retail business in Park River for 18 years—they owned and operated the Northside Grocery and the former L.B. Hartz Store. The Cudmores plan to move to Colorado.

July 5, 1978 - Bob Thomson is the new manager of Wayne's Variety Store - formerly G & D Variety, 401-403 Briggs Ave. So.

July 5, 1978 - After 21 years of barbering in Park River, Bill Chromy is selling out. Chromy's barber shop was formerly operated by Joe Masloski and Les Kelly, 408A Briggs Ave. So.

August 9, 1978 - Dr. Jeffrey Dieter will begin a dentistry practice at the Park River Dental Clinic on Monday, August 14. He purchased the practice from Dr. R.W. Baldwin who has served the community for over 30 years.

August 23, 1978 - Over 3,000 people attended the Threshing Bee held in Park River on Sunday. This was the third annual threshing bee held. The activity was held at the west edge of the City.

October 11, 1978 - A little of Park River to die Saturday with closing of 93-year-old hotel. It escaped the devastating Park River fire of 1901 but new and more stringent codes now cause it to close. The furnishings will be sold at public auction on Saturday, October 28.

1978 resembled the years gone by: 52 weeks, 365 days, babies were born, people died, progress took a few steps forward and a few steps backward. With the dire predictions of a serious recession in the works our people made it through the year without taking in a notch on their belts. The building of new homes was almost nil in Park River. We are all looking forward to 1979.

February 7, 1979 - Del and Mildred Owen have purchased the Standard Oil Bulk Dealership from Merle Onstad.

April 4, 1979 - Hair Gallery for men and women to open in Park River. Bette Jo Veum, salon owner, has invited the public to the grand opening to be held on Monday. The location is in the former Hultstrand Studio building. This is not a barber shop and not just a beauty salon it's a hair styling salon for both men and women. There is a difference, 104-4th St. W.

April 18, 1979 - Mr. and Mrs. Ray Peterson, owners of Cavalier Fashion and Fabrics, have announced they will expand their operations to include a clothing store in Park River. The shop will be located in the building immediately north of Dick's Furniture and Carpet, 316 Briggs Ave. So.

May 9, 1979 - Jack and Jill Grocery Store in Park River is sold. Mr. and Mrs. Duane Quam of Grand Forks have purchased Roger's Jack and Jill. The change of ownership will be effective June 4. Roger Hall has owned and operated the store for nearly three years and will move to Bismarck where he has purchased a Jack and Jill store. The location of the store is 419-421 Briggs Ave. So.

May 30, 1979 - Ken Kovarik opens an insurance office on 'Main Street' in Park River. He will be located in the building formerly occupied by Tim Vavrosky's Insurance Agency, 423B Briggs Ave. So. Ken became an American Family agent in May, 1978.

June 27, 1979 - A check of service stations and bulk oil dealers in Park River shows short to adequate supplies on hand and each dealer is adjusting his situation one day at a time.

July 25, 1979 - The Park River Electric located on Highway 17 on the eastern edge of the city is building a 50' x 150' addition to their building. Completion is nearing of the 40 x 80 foot addition at Oppegard Lawn and Sport Center on the city's western edge.

August 1, 1979 - Fern's Boutique, the ladies' apparel shop opened by Fern and Ray Peterson has a grand opening, 316 Briggs Ave. So.

August 1, 1979 - Potato roguers are a vanishing breed.

August 15, 1979 - First State Bank of Park River will begin work immediately on 1600 sq. foot addition to their present building.

August 15, 1979 - Tearing down begins of Windsor Hotel. Kenneth and Glen Porter of Park River are dismantling the two-story structure which was closed October 14, 1978. Owners of the building, SKM Enterprises of Park River, have no immediate plans for the site.

September 5, 1979 - Tim's Barber Shop is re-opened under the management of Guy Johnson, 423A Briggs Ave.

September 5, 1979 - Launderette in Park River is sold. On September 4, 1979 - Merle and Marion Onstad purchased the business from Norman and Katherine (Kitty) Hornberger.

September 12, 1979 - Sketches from Mark Fjeld are featured by State Agencies. His sketch of a whitetail buck on the cover of the 1979 North Dakota deer hunting proclamations, another of his sketches is featured on the cover of the 1979 bighorn sheep proclamation and three of his sketches of duck species were printed in the October 1977 issue of "North Dakota Outdoors," a magazine published by the State Game and Fish Department.

October 24, 1979 - Roy A. Neste announces his retirement and the sale of his law practice to his partner, Stephen Currie.

December 19, 1979 - Park River gains national spotlight on strength of Tim Sandy's win in Punt, Pass and Kick contest sponsored by the Ford Motor Company. Tim and five other NFL representatives will meet their AFL counterparts during the half time of the Super Bowl game to be played on January 20 in Pasadena. Tim won in a field of 14 eight-year-olds at the semi-finals in Tampa, Florida on Sunday.

December 19, 1979 - On the western edge of town, Gerald "Bud" Sobolik, owner of the Park River Lumber, makes note of plans for a 40 x 80 foot expansion of his company display room. The addition is expected to be completed by early March.

During 1978 and 1979 there was much discussion about converting Park River's main street into a mall. However, Federal funding was not available so the proposal was dropped.

March 19, 1980 - After 5 years of broasting chicken Harold Anderson has sold his "Guest House", Hwy, 17 W. to Barbara Porter Charbonneau, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Porter of Park River.

July 16, 1980 - Over 800 attended the dedication of the new Park River airport. It was a memorable dedication for the \$300,000 plus blacktopped 3,100' runway. The dedication was held last Sunday, July 13 and included a fly-in breakfast served in the hangar.

October 1, 1980 - Walsh County Towns have population gains; County drops 870. Park River's population was listed as 1, 858 with 773 houses compared to 1,680 residents and 574 houses in 1970.

October 1, 1980 - We are pleased to welcome Dr. Idatonya I. Afonya to Park River. A Get-acquainted Silver Tea was held on Sunday, October 5.

October 10, 1980 - The Dug-Out Bar is now under new owner-managership. Frances Trosen has taken over from Calmer Groven who operated it since 1977. It is located at 413 Briggs Ave. So.

October 15, 1980 - George Higgins starts a Potato Brokerage Firm at Park River. Higgins and his wife, Kay, who serves as vice president of the new firm set up headquarters for Big "H" Sales, Inc. in the building adjacent to the Park River Postoffice, 307 Briggs.

October 22, 1980 - Park River is picked by 11 area Cenex Firms as headquarters for the new Ag Industry.

March 11, 1981 - Park River has a third doctor - Dr. Vincent Farrier of Winnipeg who began his practice Monday morning with the Doctors' Clinic at St. Ansgar Hospital.

March 25, 1981 - Gary W. Paulson will succeed Gary L. Scofield as president and a director effective April 1, 1981 for the First Bank of Park River. Scofield has been elected vice president and manager of the main office of the National Bank of South Dakota in Sioux Falls.

April 22, 1981 - The late Harry O'Brien who was publisher of The Walsh County Press here for 23 years is entered into the North Dakota Newspaper Hall of Fame. For over 20 years he

wrote a personal column, "Read 'Em and Weep," which was widely quoted and excerpts of which appeared in numerous national magazines.

April 22, 1981 - Service and Quality are basis of Park River Concrete, Inc. Don Dusek has bought the concern that opened for business on April 1. Dusek pointed out the business is actually a continuation of that begun in 1947 by the late Clair Clemetson of Park River. Dusek purchased Clemetson's sand and gravel business in 1963. Dusek and his family make their home in Pisek. (One mile N. of Park River.)

April 29, 1981 - Dr. Phylis Cowger is elected president of the North Dakota Chiropractor's Association.

May 13, 1981 - the Montana-Dakota Utilities office in Park River will be closed the first part of October. However, service for Park River will be maintained. The closeness to Grafton and the fact customers calls may be made without a long distance toll were the primary factors in decision to combine the two offices. A Service Office will be maintained at 408A Briggs Ave. S., Warren Benton in charge.

May 20, 1981 - Overbye-Henriksen Funeral Home to move to new building in Park River. They will move to a new location about August 1. The facilities are located along Highway 17, east of Park River immediately east of the Dahl office building. Henriksen has sold the building located at 512 Briggs Avenue South to the Christian Faith Fellowship Church.

May 20, 1981 - Rossford Johnson's 12-row potato planter is attracting a lot of attention in this area. Although it is one of a kind, the unit is actually a combination of concepts available on the market and adapted to the needs of the Johnson operation.

May 27, 1981 - Mahrer's Red Owl, 101-3rd St. W., changes June 1 to Leever's Super Valu. Lorenz Mahrer who began in the grocery business in Park River in 1948 has announced he has sold the stock and fixtures of his Red Owl store to Leever Supermarkets, Inc. of Devils Lake.

June 17, 1981 - Paul's Service Station in Park River is sold this Monday to Dan Lipsh. Paul's Service Station located on Highway 17 in east Park River has exchanged hands and will now be Dan's Mobil. Paul Torgerson bought the business in 1974 and now has leased the station to Dan Lipsh. Torgerson will retain the Mobil Bulk. Lipsh has previously worked for 12½ years at the Cenex Station in Park River in the LP Gas department.

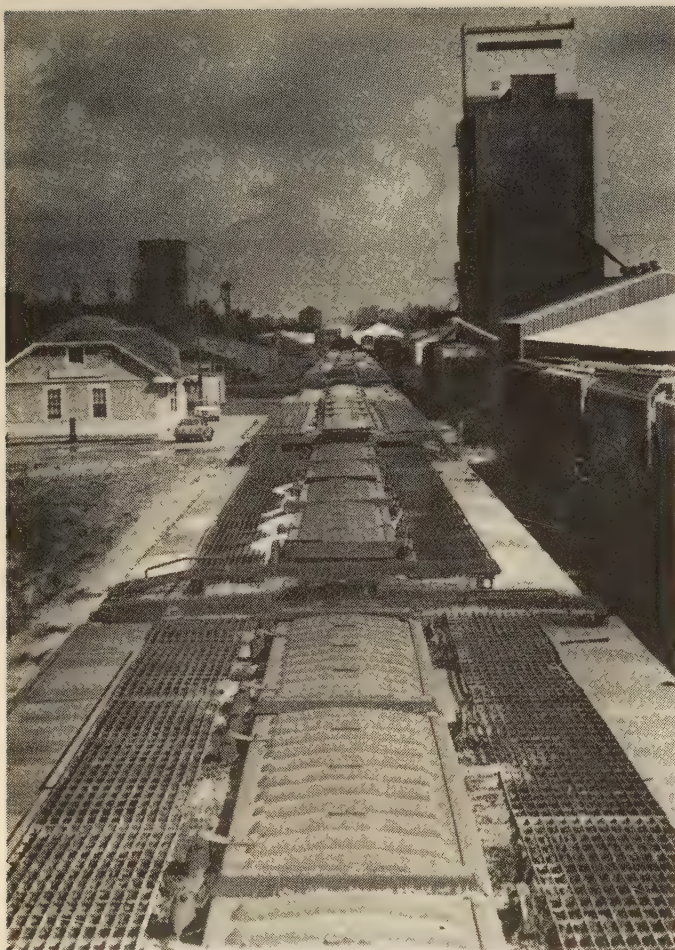
June 24, 1981 - Ervin Miller came to Park River in 1976 from Ada, MN and has served as general manager of the Cenex. He has resigned his position to move to Montana.

July 1, 1981 - Attorney Stephen Currie merges his law firm with three Grafton attorneys effective July 1.

July 15, 1981 - Ken Kadlec is named the new manager for the Park River Cenex. They will move here from St. Paul to start his position on August 3.

July 22, 1981 - the Berg Brothers are the new owners of Bowl-Mor Lanes in Park River as of July 1. After 21 years Bob Bauman sold to three brothers, Keith, Duane and Curtis Berg, all of Park River, 224 Briggs Ave. S.

July 29, 1981 - Floyd Fail sells his department store in Park River to Ray and Fern Peterson of Cavalier. They are owners of Fern's Boutique. They will join the two businesses and the store will now be called "Peterson's." Floyd Fail has owned Floyd's Department Store, formerly the Johnson Store, for 29 years, 415-417 Briggs Ave. So.



August 26, 1981 - History was made this weekend at the Farmers Elevator. A Burlington Northern Unit Train, 26 cars long, pulled into town and was loaded within 18 hours.

September 2, 1981 - More than 2,000 people attended the 6th Annual Threshing Show held on Sunday, August 30.

September 16, 1981 - Albert Gillespie retires as school bus driver - he went through three buses and traveled over 300,000 miles. The worst winter for snow Gillespie remembers was 1962.

October 21, 1981 - The "Arcade" is a new business in Park River geared by Charles Wilkes primarily at young people. It is housed in the east end of Paul's Radio and TV, on Highway 17 west.

November 25, 1981 - Larry and Mary Swenson of Park Rapids, MN have purchased "Duane's Food Center" from Duane and Faye Quam. The store is located at 419-421 Briggs Ave. So.

December 2, 1981 - Park River Business Changes:

Jane Slominski has bought the "Hair Gallery" from Bette Jo Dahl. The "Hair Gallery" is located in the former Hultstrand Studio building on 104-4th St. W.

Wages Motor and Farm Supply, Inc. has moved from its location, the building formerly housing Fail's Ritz Cafe, to the location across the street - Landsborough's Corner - which was formerly occupied by Montana-Dakota Utilities. Bruce Heggen is the manager. 322-324 Briggs.

Owen Oil Company has moved their station 2 miles west of town on Highway 17 in order to centralize their location and extend the services they offer. They formerly occupied the space 204 Park Street East.

December 9, 1981 - Artificial Ice Plant is in operation in Park River because of volunteer labor and materials. The arena is located on the Park River High School grounds.

December 9, 1981 - John Walen, formerly from Carrington, has been named as the new manager of the Robertson Building Company of Park River. He assumed his position on December 1. Before coming to Park River, Walen served as assistant manager of a Robertson's business in Carrington for 4 years. He is originally from Glenfield, ND. He replaced David Houser who had been the manager.

December 30, 1981 - Ceramic Shop is a new business in Park River, 321 Briggs. Linda Kaste is the owner. It is in the building that formerly housed Wage's Auto Supply. Linda will be assisted at the new shop by her sister, Judy Linstad of Park River.

January 21, 1982 - Grand Opening of the distinctive new office building on Highway 17 East. The building is owned by Wallace Rygh and Charles Schmaltz. It will house Park River Growers, Inc. owned by John Ferguson, John Hankey and Orian Fjestad; Charles Schmaltz, Farmers Union Insurance; Wally Rygh, CPA office.

January 22, 1982 - Grand Opening of The Hair Gallery, new owner is Jane Slominski, 104-4th St. W.

March 10, 1982 - The business people, professional people and the citizens of the area acknowledged the retirement of Dr. H.R. Piltingsrud that was effective February 26, after 34 years of service to this area. We will miss his dedicated professional care of our health. Our gratitude and appreciation go to him, the "Country Doctor."

May, 1982 - Olson Hardware- Hardware Hank - closed the operation on Highway 17 W.

May 12, 1982 - A & R Auto Repair, co-owned by Adrian and Ronald Denault, is a relatively new business located ½ mile north of Park River on County Road 12. The two men replace Larry Iverson as owners of the business.

June, 1982 - Paul Torgerson resumed operation of the Mobil Station. Dan Lipsh had been the previous operator. Kevin Papenfuss will be the manager of the station.

June 23, 1982 - "Olive's Potpourri" is a consignment craft and gift store opened by Olive Cook of Park River on the corner of Briggs Avenue and 5th St. W. Olive is the wife of George Cook, owner of Cook's Repair.

June 30, 1982 - The Park River Livestock Auction Market will be re-opened soon by new owners: Clayton Morrison of Cavalier and J.V. Kristjanson of Mountain. They plan to start weekly sales on Wednesday by mid-July.

October 20, 1982 - Ed Berreth plans an auction October 30 at his service station. "Ed's Standard," familiar to all who travel Highway 17 through Park River will no longer be under the ownership and management of Ed Berreth as he will retire on Friday, October 29 after 12 years. The Standard Station has not been purchased at this time.

November 17, 1982 - Vern Alvestad reflects upon 41 years of railroading. Burlington Northern closed the doors on its Park River depot last May. With it came the end of a 41 year career for station agent Vern Alvestad. He had managed the Park River station for 24 years.

December 1, 1982 - Beck's Tree Service and Garden Center opens doors in Park River under the ownership and direction of Allen Beck, formerly of Bagley, MN. The grand opening will be December 4 and 5. The business is located in the former Sports Center on Highway 17 West. The business will include landscaping and tree trimming and removal.

November 10, 1982 - The Dale Borgesons plan to be in operation around December 1 in the building which formerly housed Wayne's Variety on the corner of 401-403 Briggs and 4th Street. They plan to have a recreational center, including an ice cream

parlor, video games, an archery area and a BB gun practice range.

November 17, 1982 - George's Barber Shop will be opening Thursday, November 18 in the building formerly known as Tim's Barber Shop, 423A Briggs.

December 15, 1982 - The Walsh County Ag School gymnasium, one of a kind, in a league all its own, was built with a cost of \$2,700 for materials in 1928 and is now being demolished.

December 15, 1982 - H & H Standard, under the ownership of Milt and Marlynn (Skip) Hjelmstad, is the new name of a long-time Park River business at the corner of Highway 17 and Briggs Ave. Transfer of the Standard Station was on December 1 when the former owner, Ed Berreth retired.

December, 1982 - Olive's Potpourri Shop closed. It was located at the corner of 423B Briggs and 5th St. W.

February 16, 1983 - JoEllen Kemp is the proprietor of a new Park River business called Agri-Plus of Walsh County. The business is located north of the First Bank on the corner of Main Street - 423B Briggs Ave. So. She will offer a special computerized farm management program to farmers.

February 16, 1983 - The area cattle industry honors Lawrence Wilkes. He has bought, sold and moved more livestock in Northeastern North Dakota than perhaps anyone else during the past 40 years. He moved to Park River in the fall of 1955 from Langdon. On February 1, 1956 he started the Park River Livestock Sales Pavilion.

March 2, 1983 - Kim Owen of Adams purchased the Propane Business from his father, Del Owen. He is located two miles west of Park River on Highway 17.

March 16, 1983 - Figure Skating Show is set for March 19 and 20 in Park River. The skaters will range from pre-school to high school age. Cathy Robert of Grafton is the director. This will be the second annual figure skating show and approximately sixty skaters will be featured.

March, 1983 - Erickson Ford closed their doors, 302-304 Briggs.

April 27, 1983 - Charles Schmaltz plans 2-day open house in observance of his purchase of the Alexander House recently. The business was built on the western edge of the city in late 1975 and opened for business in January, 1976. The open house is slated for May 20-21.

May 18, 1983 - Ernie Shoults starts a used car firm - Shoults' Auto Sales. The business is located just west of the Dairy Queen along Highway 17 E. Also sharing the building are Tim Daley and Harold Johnston who have opened the East Side Garage.

June 8, 1983 - The Northside Grocery Store took on new ownership effective Friday, June 3. Marvin (Sonny) and Evelyn Flaten purchased the store from Junior and Judy Veralrud. Both families are longtime residents of Park River. The Veralruds bought the Northside in 1975 from Harry and Mary Larson. The Northside Grocery Store began its operation in 1936 by Chris Lucken and is a quick-stop convenience store located on the north side of Highway 17 W.

June 15, 1983 - Sid Nord of Devils Lake has just recently been appointed as the new manager of the Farmers Elevator Company.

July 6, 1983 - Park River has produced a Miss North Dakota. That is the title of Phyllis Hankey which she won last Friday night in Minot. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Hankey.

July 6, 1983 - Park River salutes the Dundee Mutual Insurance - one of the city's brightest and oldest success stories. They are located at 303 Briggs Avenue South.

July 6, 1983 - Park River is served by daily air freight. It is a service now offered by Northern Airways of Grand Forks.

July 20, 1983 - Skjerven's Garage eyes Park River's Centennial with memories of its own 56-year history. Bill Skjerven, Sr. bought Skjerven's Garage in 1927. At that time the original front was the Robertson Lumber Company (Robertson had bought out the Thompson Yards many years previously). Prior to the building of the structure, the Arlington Hotel stood in its place.

July 27, 1983 - Park River salutes Melvin's Store for Men. "Melvin's" has been a part of the Neste family and Park River over thirty-eight years.

August 3, 1983 - Park River salutes Ella Hanson, owner and operator at Ella's Beauty Shop. When she's not prettying them up in her beauty salon, she's making them feel good with her music. She is an accomplished violinist.

August 10, 1983 - Park River salutes Gerald (Bud) and Shirley Sobolik, owners of the Park River Lumber Company. The business has been in operation for thirty-three years. It was started by Otto Fursteneau in 1949. He sold to the Soboliks and Clem Houdek on May 1, 1962.

August 17, 1983 - Park River salutes Cenex. The business started in 1945 one block west of main street, the corner of 5th Street and Code Avenue. The company grew and they moved to new larger quarters on Highway 17 in November, 1977.

Jake Maier served for 19 years, the longest length of management at Park River Cenex.



August 24, 1983 - Kenneth "Butch" Porter has a buffalo herd on a farm just west of town.

August 24, 1983 - Park River salutes Shirley and Duane Halvorson. They are owners of the Coast to Coast Hardware Store and Motel 17. The Halvorsons purchased the Coast to Coast Hardware Store (420 Briggs Ave. S.) in 1967 from the late Art Rey. The Coast to Coast Store began in 1961, was managed by Jim Rome for one year, and belonged to Lloyd and Byrdie Staven. In 1965 the Halvorsons became owners of Motel 17 when they purchased it from Eddie Nickolay.

August 30, 1983 - Park River salutes Shoults' Dairy Queen. The Dairy Queen, which is open from the first part of April until the first of October, was started over 30 years ago when Gene Swartz of Grafton began the business. Gilbert Lee then bought the business which he ran for twenty years until Fabian and his brother, Ernie, bought it 10 years ago. Two years ago Fabian bought Ernie's share. The location is on Highway 17 East.

September 1, 1983 - The Big "H" Sales, a potato brokerage firm, has been moved to the Higgins residence, 608 Second Street West. Ann Pohanka's Office is now located in the premises the Higgins enterprise vacated, 305 Briggs Ave. So.

September 7, 1983 - Nearly 4,000 attended last Sunday's 8th Annual Threshing Bee. This year's event, held ½ mile west of Park River was the biggest ever.

September 7, 1983 - Park River salutes Larson Chevrolet, Inc. The business, formerly known as Larson Chevrolet Co. opened on April 7, 1954 when James and Lorene Larson purchased it. The original site of the establishment was at the former Lien Oil Co., west of the Northside Grocery Store. In September, 1967 they moved the business to their present location on Highway 17 East. William (Bill) and Tom took over the franchise and formed a corporation with their parents on September 7, 1982.

September 13, 1983 - Ann Pohanka begins a new business in Park River...bookkeeping and tax service. She is currently working from her home but she is looking for office space in Park River.

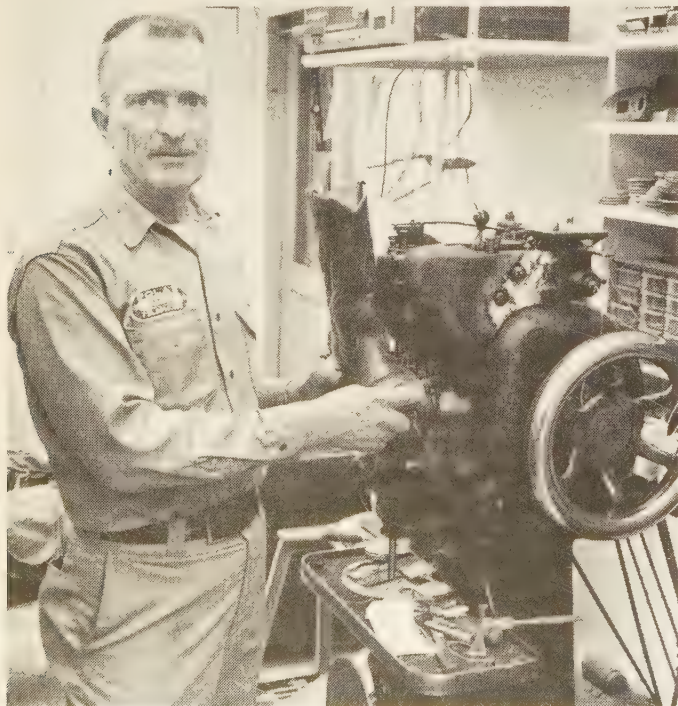
September 20, 1983 - The salute this week is to Park River's "Mister Fix It," Bob Eklund. The business is Bo-Mar Enterprises, a father-son enterprise--Bob and Marco Eklund. The repair work ranges from all types of heating and cooling systems to laying carpet and repairing electronic typesetting machines at The Press.

September 27, 1983 - the Eastside Garage is moving to 117-5th St. W.

October 4, 1983 - Dr. K.S. Sumra, formerly of Harbour Breton, Newfoundland, has accepted a position effective immediately with The Doctor's Clinic and St. Ansgar Hospital. He is a family practitioner.

October 25, 1983 - The salute this week is to "The Ritz," a cafe operated by Alvina and the late Joe Fail. They began the operation in 1932. Joe died in 1961. The Ritz Cafe was located in the present Kaste's Ceramic Shop. The Ritz had closed its doors in 1972. Alvina continued to supply the community with her good cooking as she assumed the position as cook at Larson's Cafe until June 26, 1983 when she was forced to quit because of a cracked rib.

November 1, 1983 - The Park River Farmers Union Elevator purchased the Farmers Elevator Company as of October 13.



November 7, 1983 - The salute is to Ernie Harlow - shoe repairman, hunter safety instructor, Boy Scout leader. He purchased several pieces of equipment from the former shoe repairman in Park River, Ivan Spornitz...16 years ago. Ivan's shop was located behind Larry's Food Store. Harlow set up a shop at his home, 104 Eugene Avenue in the Kensington Addition.



Centennial Office located south of Larry's Food Center

November 14, 1983 - Max Bradley starts small industry firm at his residence, 205 Park Avenue North. He is specially trained to repair or invent any type of equipment used by handicapped people.

November 21, 1983 - Paul Torgerson is saluted. He has been a bulk agent for Mobil Oil since 1974. Effective November 16, 1983 Mobil Oil sold their Park River plant to Goulding Oil out of Devils Lake. A lot of the Mobil Oil products are sold to Paul's Service which is managed by Kevin Papenfuss and owned by Paul. Paul bought the Mobil Station lot in November, 1974 from Stanley Shaw and in December, 1974 he purchased the actual station from Claude Simmons. Paul's bulk office is located at the warehouse where the tanks are located at East Railroad Avenue.

December 2, 1983 - The famous Larson's Cafe will now be known as Welch's Cafe. Tobin and Cheryl Welch bought the establishment from Dayton and Audrey Larson. Larson's Cafe started on August 2, 1950 in the building presently occupied by the Dug-Out Bar, 415 Briggs Ave. Dayton's mother, Neome Larson, purchased the cafe from Bob and Gunnar Oppeboen who owned and operated the cafe at the time. They had originally purchased the cafe from Chike and Annie O'Brien. In 1968 Neome moved the business across the street to the building which had housed Harold and Agnes Falter's "Children's World" and before then Sam Ebbesen owned the building and operated a dry cleaning and tailoring business. Dayton took over the cafe on April 1, 1977. Dayton and Audrey Larson will continue to make Park River their home--Audrey is an employee of the First Bank of Park River and Dayton is a painting contractor as well as a musician. Toby and Cheryl bought the building also, 414 Briggs Ave.

December 12, 1983 - A salute to Sportsman's Bar owned by Jim and Maureen Hobbs. It is located at 323 Briggs Ave. They bought the bar from Gerald Dobmeier who had owned it for eight years. The building that houses the bar has had an interesting history. At one time it was the location of a bowling alley, a barber shop, creamery, the Ritz Cafe (owned by Alvina and the late Joe Fail) and part of the old Windsor Hotel in the upstairs. When one visits the bar, snacks or a quick lunch may be enjoyed. They serve pizzas, hot sandwiches, chips and candy of all kinds.

Businesses of Park River - late 1983:

First State Bank, 503 Briggs Avenue South
George's Barber Shop, 423 Briggs Avenue South (George Moen)
Larry's Food Center, 419 Briggs Avenue South (Larry Swenson)
Peterson's 415 Briggs Avenue (Fern and Ray Peterson)
Dug Out Bar, 413 Briggs Avenue South (Francis Trosen)



West side of Main Street 1983

Melvin's Store for Men (and Women Too), 411 Briggs Avenue South (Lee and Eileen Neste)
 Park River Rexall Drug, 409 Briggs Avenue South
 Loftsgard Hardware, 405 Briggs Avenue South (Harvey Loftsgard)
 Sportsman's Bar, 323 Briggs Avenue South (James and Maureen Hobbs)
 Kaste Ceramics, 321 Briggs Avenue South (Linda Kaste and Judy Linstad)
 George Cook's Repair Shop, 307 Briggs Avenue South
 Dundee Insurance, 303 Briggs Avenue South (Eugene Loftsgard, manager)
 King Koin Launderette, 103 Third Street West (Marion and Merle Onstad)
 Leever's Super Valu, 101 Third Street West
 H & H Standard Station, corner Briggs and Highway 17 (Hjelmstad Brothers, Milt and Marlynn)
 Bowl-Mor Lanes, 224 Briggs Avenue South (Keith, Duane and Curtis Berg)
 Wayne's Variety, 318 Briggs Avenue South (Bob Thomson, manager)
 Alibi Bar, 320 Briggs Avenue South (Paul Hankey)
 Wages Motor, 324 Briggs Avenue South
 Welch's Bakery, 402 Briggs Avenue South (B.L. (Sonny) Welch)
 Montana Dakota Utilities, 408A Briggs Avenue South
 Ella's Beauty Shop, 408B Briggs Avenue South (Ella Hanson)
 The Club Bar, 412 Briggs Avenue South (Selma Clemetson)
 Welch's Cafe, 414 Briggs Avenue South
 Lyric Theatre, 416 Briggs Avenue South (Marvin Agotness)
 Coast to Coast Store, 420 Briggs Avenue South (Duane Halvorson)
 Skjerven's Garage, 106-5th Street East (William Skjerven, Jr. and Donovan Berger)
 Park River Livestock Auction, 704 Railroad Avenue East
 Polar Communications Mutual Aid Corporation, 110-4th Street East
 Shirley's Beauty Shop, Corner of Highway 17 East and Regina Avenue (Shirley Skeim)
 Farmers Fertilizer Plant (Ray Linstad, manager)
 Farmers Elevator, 206-4th Street East (deleted)
 Hunter Plumbing, 4th Street East (Pete Hunter)
 Robertson Lumber, 105-4th Street East (John Walen, manager)
 Farmers Union Oil, Hwy 17 E. (Ken Kadlec, mgr)
 Farmers Union Fertilizer Plant
 Farmers Union Elevator (Harold Garnaas, manager)
 Mike Hanson's Repair Shop
 Spring Street Camp Grounds (Albert and Dorothy Gillespie)
 Shoults Dairy Queen, 305 Park Street East (Fabian and Elsie Shoults)

Walsh County Press, 404 Briggs Ave. So. (Henry and Georgette Kelly)

Post Office, Ralph Pederson, Postmaster, is located at 309-11 Briggs Avenue South.

The Senior Citizens Center is located at 410 Briggs Avenue South (many years ago the location of the Arness Cafe).

Vacant: 401-403 Briggs - Walstrom Building

Former Ford Garage - 302-312 Briggs Avenue South

Paul's Service Station, Highway 17 East (Kevin Papenfuss, manager)

Larson Chevrolet, 504 Park Street East (Tom and Bill Larson)

Ernie's Auto Sales, 200 Park Street East (Ernie Shoults)

Paul's Mobil Bulk Station (Paul Torgerson)

Service Cleaners, 515 Briggs Avenue South (Pat and Stella DeLeon)

Larry's Refrigeration and Air Conditioning, Highway 17 West (Larry Clemetson)

Park River Veterinary Clinic, 607 Park Street West (Dr. Lee Sturlaugson)

Park River Locker Plant, 603 Park Street West (Laverne "Buzz" Hell)

Oppegard Equipment, Highway 17 West (Don Oppegard, manager)

Guest House, Highway 17 West (Barbara Porter Bradley)

T & C Car Wash, Highway 17 West

Alexander House, Highway 17 West (Charles Schmaltz, owner)

Porter's Automatic Transmission Service and Supply, Highway 17 West (Glen Porter)

Beck's Tree Service, Highway 17 West

Porter Auto Repair and Salvage, Highway 17 West (Kenneth (Butch) Porter)

Eastside Garage, 117-5th Street West (Harold Johnston and Tim Daley)

The Hair Gallery, 104-4th Street West (Jane (Mrs. Ernie) Slominski, owner)

Centrol, 102-4th Street West

Frank's Service, 105-4th Street West (Frank Soukup)

The Arcade, 309 Park Street West (Charles Wilkes)

Park River Lumber Company, 417 Park Street West (Gerald "Bud" Sobolik)

KAP, Inc. 503 Park Street West (Louie Papenfuss and John Kelly, owners)

Samson Electric, 101 Hill Avenue South (Wes and Paul Samson)

Overbye-Henriksen Funeral Home, Highway 17 East (Terry Henriksen)

Tollefson Funeral Home, Highway 17 West

Motel 17

Ed's Flowers, 111 Eugene Avenue (Ed and Bertha Abrahamson)

Ron Dahl Contractor, Highway 17 East

Ye Olde Medicine Shop, 103 Harris Avenue South (Laurie Walstad Larson and Dave Jorgenson)

Northside Grocery, 211 Park Street West (Marvin and Evelyn Flaten)

Gate City, 201 Briggs Avenue South

State Farm Insurance, 518 Briggs Avenue South (Jim Worley)

Professional:

Steve Currie, attorney, 313 Briggs Avenue South

Ann Pohanka's Office, 305 Briggs Avenue South

Lorene Larson, attorney, 307 Briggs Avenue South

Dr. P. W. Cowger, Chiropractor, 314 Briggs Avenue South

Dr. Earl Infeld, Optometrist, 406 Briggs Avenue South

Gary L. Coleman, DDS, 418 Briggs Avenue South. Park River Dental Clinic

Schmaltz and Rygh Office, Highway 17 East, Kensington

Potato:
Meberg Potato
Toews Farms
Burbidge Farms
Polar Potato
Walsh Storage

F-M Potato
J.R. Simplot
Park River Potato Company
United Potato Growers
Larson Potato
Johnson Potato



.. March 1, 1885 - George Gross has received from the Townsite Company a residence lot free, for his son, Arthur. It being the first child born in Park River. The company always offer inducements to settlers. Will competition in this direction ever cease. (George was a special agent for the Muscatine Mutual Insurance Company).

.. September 28, 1906 - J.I. Case came out with an all steel separator this fall and it is meeting with success.

.. February 15 and 16, 1916 - H.A. Pomranke hauled a load of flour to Crystal and a load to Lankin on Wednesday.

.. June 22, 1916 - School apportionment is large - \$2.83 per capita from the State and \$2.21 from the County. Park River received \$2,358.72.

.. May, 1913 - Harry Longfellow has been awarded the contract to sprinkle the streets.

.. January, 1931 - Park River has one very attractive scene, the large icicle on the water tank. The icicle is probably about 50 feet long and has a diameter of several feet.

January, 1917

There is a prevalent opinion among the patrons of the postoffice that the present quarters are inadequate for proper accommodation of the public. The business of the postoffice has been on the increase and grown to a considerable extent since the postoffice was first housed in the present building—about 10 years ago. At that time it was doubtless ample for that purpose, but it is quite evident that now it has outgrown it. At mail time each day the jam is so great in the room allotted to the public that it is necessary to push one's way through the crowd to get to the mail boxes. The condition is especially discouraging to women patrons. If Postmaster Dougherty would enlarge the present quarters he would do the public a favor that would be appreciated. (The postoffice was located at 321 Briggs Ave. South)

Bald Headed Ball's

PALACE OF ART,

Park River, Lake Side, and
Kensington,

D. T.



S. HOLLAND.

BOILER MAKER,

REPAIRER OF ENGINES AND MACHINERY.

Keep a running stock of

FEED, PUMPS, INSPIRATORS, STEAM AND WATER GAUGES, ETC.

Park River, Dak., Jan 1 1889

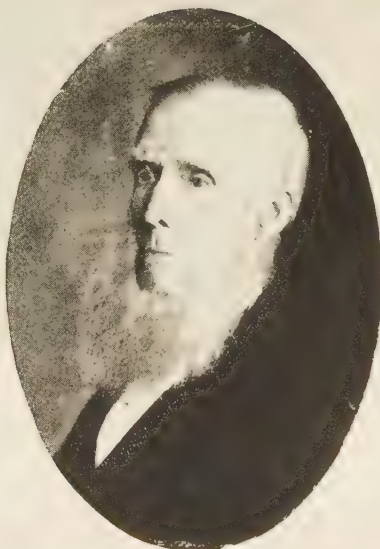
Prominent Citizens of Park River in 1900



J. A. Strachan, A. M.
Pastor Methodist Episcopal Church



David H. Beecher
President of the First National Bank



Samuel Landsborough, Sr.



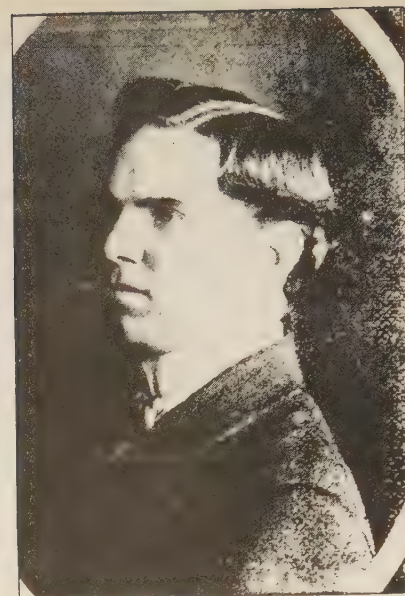
Rev. M. N. Knutson
Pastor of the Norwegian Lutheran Church



Geo. K. McEwan
Postmaster of the City of Park River
One of the well and favorably known firm of
McEwan & Dougherty



J. D. Landsborough
Superintendent of Sunday School



Robert C. Cliff
Veterinary Surgeon
Graduate of Ontario Veterinary College
Toronto, Canada



W. J. Edwards
Architect and Contractor
for the raising and repairing of the City Hall

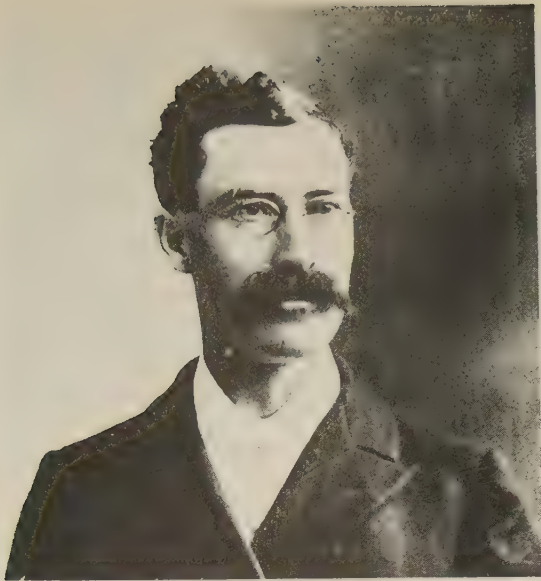


M. Haldorsson, B. A., B. S., M. D.

Graduated from the Royal University of Copenhagen, Denmark, where he practiced for a number of years, and for several years also held the position of naval surveyor. He came to Park River in 1892, after a brief stay in Wisconsin. He has an enormous practice, from Winnipeg to Crookston, from the Red River to Devils Lake. Dr. H. has held the office of county physician for several terms, and is now serving his second term as county coroner.



Mr. Hugh Longhead
Member of board of trustees of city schools



T. Davis Achison
Pastor First Presbyterian Church



Thos. Catherwood
Born in Haldimond county, Ontario, June 7, 1856, graduate of Goderich High and Model Schools; came to Dakota in 1880; taught the first school in Kensington township; also first merchant of Park River.

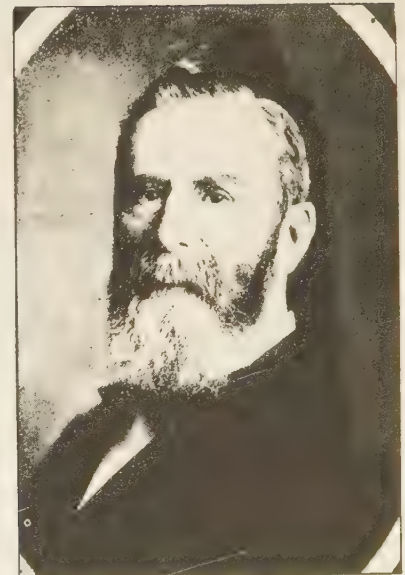


A. S. Park



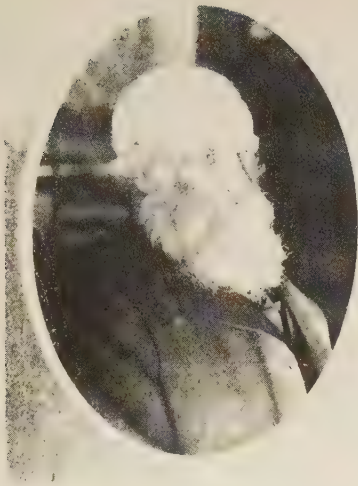
Emil Nelson

The Park River jeweler, is a young man who has built up a prosperous business in a very short time. Mr. Nelson claims that the success he has attained is largely due to the guarantee he has always been able to maintain by superior workmanship in all lines of his business.



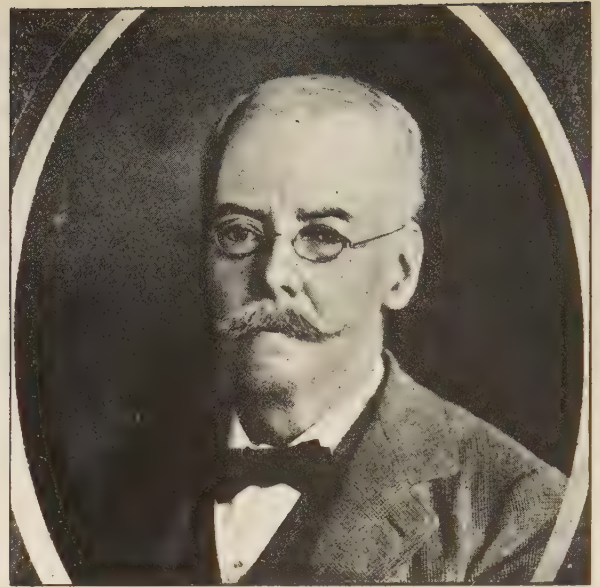
Charles P. Honey

Mr. Honey is one of the oldest settlers and most well and favorably known citizens of our city. He came to Dakota in 1879, and seeing so many of his neighbors, as sheep without a shepherd, he called them together and conducted the first union religious services in Kensington township. He was also chosen chairman of the first board of supervisors; was postmaster from 1882 to 1884. He received the appointment as postmaster in Park River several times and held the same for eight years. He now resides in the city where his family all surround him in comfortable homes. His sons carry on a large milling business, while he superintends his farming interests. During the past twelve years he has creditably served the city as police magistrate. In politics he is republican; in religion a Methodist Episcopal.



John Ross, Sr.

Emigrated from Glasgow, Scotland, in 1848. After residing in Ontario until 1881, he came to North Dakota. Since that time he has been a resident of Park River and vicinity. He is well known, beloved and respected by his many friends. For many years he has been an elder in the Presbyterian church.



C. S. Stranahan

The oldest druggist in the state, having been forty-five years in the business. He was born in New York state in 1835; came to Park River when the town started, in 1884, and has since carried on an extensive business in the city.



W. E. Hoover

Superintendent of City Schools



Rev. J. P. Schell

Born in Iowa in 1845, graduated at the State University at Iowa City in 1870, Union Theological Seminary, New York, in 1873; spent three years in Home Mission work in Utah and Idaho; came to the Red River Valley in 1880; commissioned first for the Park and Forest River districts, with headquarters at Crofton, afterwards located in Minnesota, where he organized nearly all the Presbyterian churches between Crookston and St. Vincent; at Bathgate from 1886 to 1890; Drayton from 1892 to 1896; since that time he has resided at Park River, and supplying as a Home Missionary at Conway, Ramsey's Grove, and other points; also served in an Iowa regiment during the civil war.

History of the City Council

The council meeting excerpts and the tabulation of city elected and appointed officials, were taken from going over approximately 750 Council meetings from 1929-1980. Information was also taken from the Park River Blue Book showing the officials from 1884-1913, which was prepared by E. Smith Peterson as City Attorney, and from the Revised Ordinance Book, prepared by City Attorney Harold King, covering the history of Park River from 1913-1929.

This is not so much a history of Park River as it is a history of the City Councils over the time since the city was officially organized in 1884 to mid 1980- almost 100 years. The records from 1933 to July 5, 1938, were missing.

When I was appointed city attorney in 1948, the city was only 64 years old and when I resigned, due to retirement, the city was then 95 years old. It was my privilege to work with four fine mayors over the years, and many very dedicated members of the Council, and I believe the residents of Park River should be thankful that these elected people would put in their many hours at long sessions to put the affairs of our city in such good order.

Roy A. Neste, B.S.C., LLB, J.D.

Thanks to Roy Neste for the many hours it took to bring the events of the City Council up-to-date until 1980. Effie Lindgren, City Auditor, did the up-dating of the Council minutes from 1980-1983.

Town of Park River 1884-1886

PRESIDENT: Dr. J.G. Millspaugh
Trustee: James Robertson; James Currie; H.A. Ball
Clerk: W.D. Bates
Marshall: Thomas Simons
Justice of Peace: John H. McCulloughn
Treasurer: Oliver Hamilton - Toole Hanson
Assessor: M.E. Quigley - H.R. Aslakson
Pound Master: Ole Thorson
Night Watch: John Dyness - E.L. Foy
Official Paper: Park River Gazette

News Noted:

"In the late summer of 1884, the St. Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba Railroad (now the Great Northern Railway; built a branch line from Larimore to Park River, this being the terminus of the road for several years. The businessmen of "Garfield" and "Kensington" and many from other places immediately moved into the new town and laid the foundation for the metropolis of Walsh County, one of the most progressive and up-to-date towns in the state of North Dakota. A petition asking for the incorporation of the town of Park River was filed in the office of the County Auditor on November 12, 1884, and was returned for correction. It was again presented to the commissioners on December 16, 1884, and on that date a resolution was adopted ordering the first town election to be held on the 30 December, 1884. On 5 January 1885, the board adopted a resolution ordering that the town be incorporated under the name Park River. The return of the election showing the vote to have a majority of sixty-five in favor of the incorporation."

1887-1888

PRESIDENT: James L. Currie
Clerk: Charles S. Stranahan
Marshall: Thomas Simons, Mike O'Hara
Trustee: John Ofstedahl, George McEwan, H.R. Aslakson
Assessor: S.A. Wroolie, Lewis Lofgren
Treasurer: Toole Hanson, C.D. Lord

Justice of Peace: John H. McCulloughn, Henry Baldwin
Night Watch: William Ferguson, Mike O'Hara, M.F. Kelleher, Alex Currie
Pound Master: Ole Thorson, Christ Erickson

News Noted:

August 17, 1888: The Railroad Addition was added to Park River.

1889

PRESIDENT: Solomon H. Bailey
Clerk: H.R. Aslakson
Marshall: M.F. Kelleher
Trustee: C.D. Lord, Andrew McKinney, James Douglas
Assessor: Lewis Lofgren
Treasurer: J.P. Birder
Justice of Peace: Henry Baldwin
Pound Master: M.F. Kelleher

1890-1891

PRESIDENT: C.D. Lord
Clerk: H.R. Aslakson
Marshall: P.D. Briggs, Sylvester F. Wilson
Trustee: J.J. Irwin, S.A. Cameron
Assessor: George McLeod
Treasurer: J.P. Birder
Justice of Peace: Ole Ouverson, K.J. Farup
Night Watch: Samuel Holland

1892

PRESIDENT: J.J. Irwin
Clerk: H.R. Aslakson
Marshall: Sylvester F. Wilson
Trustee: S.A. Cameron, W.F. Honey
Assessor: George McLeod
Treasurer: John O. Hamre
Justice of Peace: C.H. Honey

1893-1896

PRESIDENT: W.F. Honey
Clerk: Reier Torgerson, H.R. Aslakson

Marshall: Sylvester F. Wilson, Charles Service
 Trustee: W.T. Fallis, D.F. Booth, Lee S. White, James-R. Martin
 Assessor: Harry Lord, P.D. Briggs, C.L. Finneseth, George McLeod
 Treasurer: O.E. Hasle
 Justice of Peace: C.H. Honey
 Night Watch: Frank Taylor

News Noted:

In May 1896 an election was held to change the incorporation to a city and the vote was 93-7 against incorporation. On June 2 the trustees adopted a resolution in regard to the change, which was filed for record in the County Auditor's Office on June 5, 1896, which transformed the then village of Park River into a corporation known as the "City of Park River."

June 9, 1893: Harvey's Addition was added to Park River

August 24, 1893: Lord's Addition was added to Park River

July 29, 1895: Honey's Addition was added to Park River

June 17, 1896: Birder's Addition was added to Park River

City of Park River

1896-1899



City Council of Park River

Chief of Police: Charles Service, J. Amoth, George F. Honey (Auditor), O. O'Reilly, Mayor H.A. Libby, John Wylie, George Stuskoff, Sylvester Wilson and I. Davis.

MAYOR: Hiram A. Libby
 President of Council: George E. Towle, J.W. Wylie
 Vice-President of Council: Thomas Wadge, S.F. Wilson
 City Auditor: H.R. Aslakson, G.F. Honey
 Alderman: John Wylie, George Towle, E.A. Doering, Harry Lord, John Aamoth, George Stuskopf, Thomas Wadge, Lee White, Inkerman Davis, S.F. Wilson, James Townsend, Owen O'Rielly
 Assessor: George McLeod, M.E. Quigley
 Treasurer: O.E. Hasle
 Justice of Peace: C.H. Honey
 Health Officer: J.D. Windell, Dr. S. Douglas
 Special Examiner: C.H. Kester
 Justice: George W. Young
 Night Watch: Col. Odden

News Noted:

September 2, 1897: Kohnen's Addition was added to Park River

1900-1903

MAYOR: John Wylie
 President of Council: I. Davis, C.E. Nelson
 Vice-President of Council: J. Wadge, O. O'Reilly
 City Auditor: O.E. Lofthus
 Alderman: Inkerman Davis, S. F. Wilson, Owen O'Reilly, J.J. Irwin, John Wadge, C.E. Nelson, J.W. Metz, W.P. Buckingham, John Fitzpatrick, H.B. Newcomb, K.J. Farup
 Chief of Police: Charles Service, T.A. Martin, John Aitkin
 Assessor: H.C. Kimball, P.D. Briggs
 Treasurer: W.T. Fallis
 Justice of Peace: C.H. Honey
 City Engineer: W.J. Edwards
 Manager of Opera House: George E. Kermott
 Health Officer: Dr. T.F. Waugh, Dr. M. Halldorson
 Electrician: E.L. Ross, R.G. Wieland
 City Justice: E. Smith Peterson, Bertrum Green

News Noted:

A special election was held on June 3 on the question of issuing bonds for \$19,800 for electric light and waterworks, due June 15, 1921. The vote was 176 for the bonds and 37 against. Contract let for installation of electric plant and waterworks to Allen Black & Company of St. Paul for \$21,000.



Powerhouse - 1900

August 21, 1901: C.H. Honey deeded the north part of the original Village of Kensington to the City of Park River for the light plant.

1904-1909

MAYOR: James J. Dougherty
City Auditor: Eggert Erlendson, B.A. Barlow
Alderman: J.W. Metz, John Fitzpatrick, F.E. West, George Young, S.A. Cameron, J.P. Birder, C.E. Nelson, D.E. Towle, Christ Reinertson, Angus White
Chief of Police: Christ Schlenk
Assessor: H.B. Neucomb, Mike O'Hara, John McBride, John Bidlake, S.F. Wilson
Treasurer: W.T. Fallis, R.J. Holmes
Police Magistrate: Lyman Brandt, Joel Myers, Roger Allin
City Engineer: K.J. Farup, A.F. Mullineaux, Asst.
Manager of Opera House: Edward Code
Health Officer: Dr. T.F. Waugh
Electrician: R.G. Wieland, Godfrey Anderson, Q.E. Berkey
Street Commissioner: Christ Schlenk
City Attorney: H.A. Libby
City Justice: John P. Johnson

News Items:

February 3, 1908: The City of Park River annexed the property known as the Electric Light and Water Works Plant.

April 13, 1905: Birder's Second Addition was added to Park River.

1910-1911

MAYOR: Joel Myers
City Auditor: F.J. Prochaska
Alderman: J.W. Metz, S.A. Cameron, John Fitzpatrick, Christ Reinertson, Angus White, Sam Holland
Chief of Police: Christ Schlenk
Assessor: P.G. McKay
Treasurer: R.J. Holmes
Police Magistrate: Edward Code, David Johnson
City Engineer: K.J. Farup
Manager of Opera House: Henry Anderson
Health Officer: Nels O. Sandven, M.D.
Electrician: H.B. Lange, A.E. Mallineaux, A. Wakeford, Asst.
City Justice: John P. Johnson, E. Smith Peterson
Pound Master: Christ Schlenk



City Hall

1912-1915

MAYOR: J.W. Metz
City Auditor: F.J. Prochaska
Alderman: S.A. Cameron, Christ Reinertson, Angus White, O.P. Olson, E. Herwick, R.J. Church, M.D., Peter J. Ostboe, John Lohse, H.H. Hewitt, Andrew Walker, John Welleck, George Ratliff, R.J. Church, M.D.
Chief of Police: Christ Schlenk, Sam Holland, John C. Buss
Assessor: Iver P. Overbye, Ole J. Pederson, Joseph Brett
Treasurer: R.J. Holmes
Police Magistrate: David Johnson
City Engineer: K.J. Farup
Manager of Opera House: Henry Anderson
Health Officer: Nels Sandven, M.D.
City Justice: John P. Johnson, E. Smith Peterson

News Items:

March 1914: Plans and specifications for a sewage system were received and accompanied by an estimate of complete installation. Estimate of construction of the trunk and sewer and four laterals is placed at \$19,257.10. The original estimate given was at \$20,000. Reduction in the cost was due to changing the size of pipe in the trunk sewer from 18 and 15 inches to 15 and 12 inches. This size was decided to be large enough in view of the slope of the ground to the outlet and good surface drainage. Mr. Lykken, engineer from Grand Forks, stated that the nature of the soil encountered in excavating work is an element which governs cost to a considerable extent. "Plans call for a trunk line running east and west on the street between G.W. Young's and A.H. Walker's residence properties, crossing Dr. Church's yard and continuing directly east to the coulee. Then the line follows the bed of the coulee to the river." Cost will be assessed uniformly against the lots in the city and would run about \$7 per 25 foot lot. Plans were examined and approved by City Engineer Karl J. Farup.

1915: A new generator for the Light Plant was installed at a cost of \$3,680.

1916-1917

MAYOR: S.A. Cameron
City Auditor: F.J. Prochaska
Alderman: John Lohse, John Welleck, R.J. Church, M.D., John McConnell, T.A. Hanson, R.J. Richardson
Chief of Police: Christ Schlenk
Assessor: Joseph Brett, Ole J. Pederson
Treasurer: R.J. Holmes
Justice of Peace: Robert Arnot
City Engineer: K.J. Farup
Manager of Opera House: H.C. Otto
Health Officer: E.W. Moessey, M.D.; F.E. Weed, M.D.; N.O. Sandven, M.D.
City Attorney: G.W. Young

News Items:

February, 1917: "WHAT THE CITY NEEDS TODAY"

"If Park River is to maintain its place as a commercial center in this section it must be in position to offer the best advantages of trade and service to the farmer producers of the largest and most populous tributary territory in this part of the state. A movement was launched last fall for the erection of a cooperative potato warehouse. This project with the proper encouragement and financial assistance will materialize. This project will be of great assistance in helping the many farmers who have been growing

potatoes extensively in the way of marketing their crops more advantageously than in the past."

"Another need is a hotel building. The present one has outlived its usefulness and travelers are unanimously of the opinion that Park River is, in this one respect, getting an unenviable reputation throughout the entire state. This is no reflection upon Mr. Stegner's ability as a hotel man. He does not own the property and is doing the best he can, or likely better than anyone else could do, handicapped as he is by the antiquity of the building and its inconveniences.

There is also a vital need for a gymnasium at the city schools. All schools the size of Park River's should have, and most of them do have, adequate facilities for imparting gymnastic instruction to practically all of its pupils."

"A gymnasium building would be of incalculable benefit to 300 to 400 pupils. The physical welfare of such a large number should be an eloquent appeal to public spirited citizens to devise some means to bring about the erection of the gymnasium if the finances are inadequate to do so. The undertaking should not require a great outlay of funds, yet it is also one of the city's most pressing needs."

1916: The sewage system was installed at a cost of \$20,131.85. Many new sidewalks and crossings were also built.

1917: As water was scarce, a new well was dug this year at a cost of \$775.00.

1918

MAYOR: J.A. Dunn
City Auditor: M.C. Moore, K.D. Bennett
Alderman: John McConnel, T.A. Hanson, R.J. Richardson, J.L. Finneseth, Thomas Meagher, T.T. Thompson.
Chief of Police: Christ Schlenk
Assessor: Mike O'Hara
Treasurer: R.J. Holmes
Justice of Peace: William Wample
Supt. Light Plant: John A. Ferguson
Manager of the Opera House: H.C. Otto
Health Officer: M. Hanson, M.D.
City Attorney: G.W. Young, E. Smith Peterson
Pound Master: Ole Ackerland



1919

MAYOR: Dr. R.J. Richardson
City Auditor: K.D. Bennett
Alderman: T.A. Hanson, J.L. Finneseth, Thomas Meagher, T.T. Thompson, E.W. Elliott
Chief of Police: Christ Schlenk

Assessor: Frank Fay
Treasurer: R.J. Holmes
Justice of Peace: William Wample
Supt. Light Plant: John A. Ferguson
Manager of the Opera House: Emmett O'Hara.
Health Officer: M. Hanson, M.D.

News Items:

1919: Another well was dug by the City crew and a new pump installed at a total cost of \$4500.00

1920-1937

MAYOR: J.D. Robertson
Alderman: Thomas Meagher, E.W. Elliott, H.A. Metz, William McEachern, Charles Fee, Cecil Birder, D.G. McKay, John Martyn, Charles Harris, E.R. Landsborough, Frank Oaks, E.F. Olson
Chief of Police: Christ Schlenk, Thomas Catherwood, C.M. Scidmore, Sander Kittleson
City Auditor: H.V. Dougherty, C.P. O'Brien, G.J. Mauritson
Assessor: Frank Fay, David Smith
Treasurer: R.J. Holmes, K.D. Bennett
Police Magistrate: G.J. Mauritson, F.E. Fay, C.E. Birder, Morris Holmquist
Justice of Peace: William Young, Frank Wade, P.C. Duffy
City Engineer: John A. Ferguson
Supt. Light Plant: Roy Scidmore, J.L. McGuire, John A. Ferguson
Manager of Opera House: A. Anderson, Ted Eyolfson, Fordyce Pengilly
Health Officer: M. Hanson, MD: Clarence Robertson; George Smith; F.E. Weed, M.D.; V.S. Irvine, M.D.
City Attorney: Harold King, T.I. Dahl
Pound Master: Herman A. Pomranke

News Items:

1922: The old steam engines at the electric Light Plant were abandoned and the oil engines were installed. The power plant was rebuilt.

1924: The City Hall was painted and repaired.

1927: The "White Way" street lighting was installed in the center of the main street from the highway to the business district.

1929: At the election of April 1, 1929, the First Ward voted at the Council Chambers, the Second Ward at the Neste Cream Station and Third Ward at the Windsor Hotel.

May 23, 1929: "With the purchase of part of the Birder property on both sides of the river, running west from the north road bridge, the city of Park River this week acquired one of the biggest and finest park sites in the state. The deed covers one hundred acres." Karl J. Farup is president of the Park Board. The Civic Club headed by C.P. O'Brien was instrumental in securing the property. Members of the Civic Club Committee were: Mr. Farup, O.P. Olson and Dr. F.E. Weed. The Birder family showed willingness to cooperate with the plan by setting the price at a low figure. The volunteer Firemen are considering building a bath house and swimming pool. The Golf Club is also willing to shoulder some of the maintenance expenses. The Civic Club pledged \$3,000 to the 5-6 year improvement program and the City will stand part of the expense.

June 19, 1929: The mayor was authorized to sign a contract for the dam

September 9, 1929: The Council authorized the plowing of the new Birder area. The city purchased this park from the Birder family and Smith as of May 10, 1929.

November 11, 1929: The Council set the price of water at .15 per 1,000 gallons

November 25, 1929: The city of Park River was platted by H.V. Mott of Grafton, surveyor.

March 3, 1930: The council decided to call a meeting with the American Legion and the Civic Club concerning the new park.

July 7, 1930: The idea of having a carnival in town was discussed but voted down by all except E.R. Landsborough.

August 4, 1930: Sander Kittleson was appointed night watchman.

September, 1930: Paul Grunvold asked permission to hang an electric sign over the sidewalk and this was approved.

•The mayor and a group went to Grand Forks to the Great Northern office to ask for a new depot, the one having burned down. The Council offered to pay \$400.00 to the Great Northern Railroad for part of costs of sewer and water lines to the new depot.

1931: A petition was presented in February that the City levy for a band and it was decided to put this to the voters at the next election. A levy of one-half mill was authorized by a vote of 250-75.

•The annual budget was set at \$7,450.00

•The City agreed to give \$100.00 for a grandstand in the park, provided the Legion would furnish the balance of the cost.

•The City purchased a chlorinator for the water system

•The Council moved that any able bodied man seeking relief be asked to work for the City at \$.20 per hour. (During these years it was the policy for the City to give relief in the form of doctor bills, grocery bills, etc.)

•The City put out on bids for the removal of the fence around the park and when done, the City sold the fence material for \$47.15.

•D.D. Smith was hired as Assessor at \$100.00 and \$125.00 for the next two years

1932: The City ordered dog tags to be issued.

•The City gave a twenty year franchise to Park River Telephone Company and gave a reduction to Walsh County School for lights.

•A contract was signed for a new water tower at a cost of \$1791.00, but later cancelled to select a new site on the top of the hill and a bond issue was ordered for about \$8,000 for the new tower.

•The City paid \$973.00 to the American Legion for the balance on a park loan

•The bid for a new tower was \$4,000.00

•City gave Andrew Gilbert \$150.00 for the damage to his property when the old water tower collapsed.

•David Mills from the Walsh County School Board stated that they could not pay the light and water bills, so City agreed to give free service for the coming year.

August, 1935: A permanent CCC Camp was located just west of the present camp and city officials agreed to pipe water mains and sewer to the camp site. The new camp will be located near the ski slide built last winter. "For the accomodation of the camp, 17 buildings will be constructed of a semi-permanent type." Frame buildings with drop siding, celotex finish and heated with stoves. 10 barracks, one mess hall, bath house, recreation hall, officers quarters, garage and shop.

1938-1945

MAYOR: Fred Hultstrand

Alderman: T.A. Meagher, E.R. Landsborough, Frank Oaks, Carl Olson, William Skjerven Sr., Emmett Porter, Bert Hardy, J.C. Kenney, M.O. Johnson, M.C. Adams, Les Kelly

Chief of Police: Olaf Olson, Oscar Stromli, Alvin Freeman

City Auditor: Harold King, Elsie J. Catherwood

Assessor: Carl Alm, Allan Loughhead

Treasurer: K.D. Bennett

Police Magistrate: Gunna Skjerven

Justice of Peace: C.D. Lord, W.E. Cowger

City Engineer: John A. Ferguson, George Widme

Health Officer: F.E. Weed, M.D.

City Attorney: Harold King, F. Lorene Whitesides

News Items:

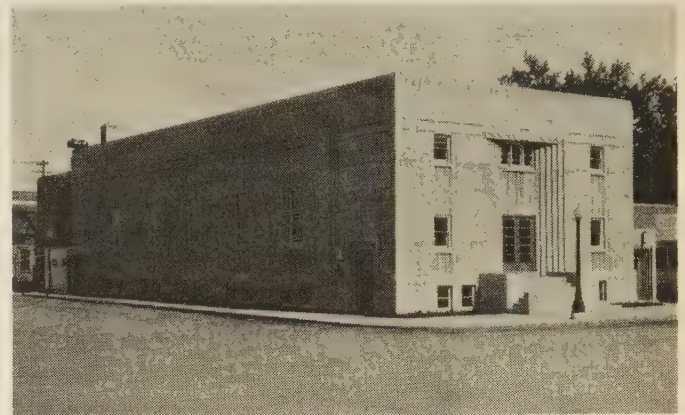
1938: The Council asked that dilapidated buildings be improved or removed and that delinquent taxpayers pay their taxes so the new City Hall can be completed without debt.

•The Chief of Police salary was raised to \$100.00 per month, but he must also assist in the collection of back taxes.

•The Council directed the Auditor to try to promote a dam west of Park River to augment the City water supply.

•Many lots in town that had been taken for taxes were sold to individuals for building homes.

•Repairs were made to the dam.



New City Hall - 1939

1939: The first meeting in the new City Hall was March 6.

•A garbage hauling contract was issued to Mabel O'Brien at \$.50 per hour for not more than two days a week.

•Council decided to construct a women's cell in the jail.

•Dedication of the new City Hall was June 14, 1939.

•Harold King resigned as City Auditor and Elsie Catherwood replaced him. Harold King was appointed City Attorney.

•Council designated the front room in the basement of the new hall as the Legion Room.

1940: New rate schedule was set up for lights and water.

•Dedication of the new City Hall on May 1, 1940, with a public banquet, program and dance.

•The City and Legion hired a lifeguard at the City dam swimming area.

1941: The City agreed to purchase a new 450 HP diesel engine from Fairbanks Morse for \$34,900.00.

•City hired a lifeguard for the CCC dam swimming area.

•The City hired an engineer to check into obtaining water from the springs west of town.

1942: City established "black out" ordinance to dispense with outdoor Christmas lights.

•The Annual budget was \$41,230.00

1943: A dog ordinance was passed.

•A group asked for a 9:30 p.m. curfew to regulate minors on the streets.

•Mayor Fred Hultstrand reported that Park River had been approved as a suitable location for a hospital. The Council approved the same.

1944: An ordinance was passed to regulate animals. Damage is being done by chickens and livestock at large.

- Repairs were made to the artesian well.

- City agreed to repair main street, five blocks, at a cost of \$1,400.00

- City agreed to allow the City Park to help with incoming Mexican laborers by using it as a camp if necessary.

1945: On September 4 the Council agreed to set up ground work for a possible dam west of Park River and share cost with Grafton on the basis of \$7,500.00 for Park River and \$42,500.00 for Grafton.

- The Union Chamber of Commerce and Civic Club met with the Council to see about getting a site for an airport. They also discussed building a swimming pool.

1946-1949

MAYOR: Duncan Meagher

Alderman: Bert Hardy, M.O. Johnson, Les Kelly, Oscar Stromli, M.B. Overbye, John Bures, William Flint

Chief of Police: Ivan Spornitz, Al Thiede

City Auditor: Elsie J. Catherwood

Assessor: Allen Loughead

Treasurer: K.D. Bennett, G.S. Larson

Police Magistrate: Gunna Skjerven

Justice of Peace: Harry O'Brien

City Engineer: George Widme

Health Officer: F.E. Weed, MD

City Attorney: F. Lorene Whitesides, Roy A. Neste

News Items:

August 29, 1946: Dillon's Subdivision was added to Park River.

August 16, 1949: Harvey's First Replat was filed.

1946: City purchased a super deluxe Ford for the Police Department at a cost of \$1,207.06.

- A name was selected for the new dam west of town as Homme Dam and Reservoir.

- City donated \$200 to the Walsh County Fair Association.

- City repaid \$375 to the Fire Department as a balance on loan for park purchases.

- John Dillon met with the Council regarding the purchase of the baseball park from the City for a housing addition.

- City gave 300 feet of 2½ inch hose and 100 feet of chemical hose to the Fire Department.

- M.S. Bateman asked for building permit to build a new Ford garage where the old one had burned down.

- The ball park was sold to John Dillon for \$260.00.

- The City agreed to pay half the cost of wages to maintain the golf course and city park.

- City agreed to pay \$16,220.00 as its share of intake facilities at the Homme Dam. Grafton would be paying \$23,880.

- October 7: The State Department of Health sampled private wells in town and stated they should not be used unless the water was boiled.

1947: On January 17, a special meeting of the Council looked into the cost of a new sewage disposal treatment plant.

- Garbage collection rates were set up to \$.50 a month per residence.

- Council agreed to accept the bid of \$61,110 for 473 kilowatt alternator

- City sold its 180 HP engine for \$7,500 to the City of Faith, South Dakota.

- Cost of intake facilities at Homme Dam now raised to \$22,900.

1948: Council agreed to pay \$60 per acre for crop land and \$30

for pasture land for land needed for the dam site property.

- City set up a Park District.

- Permit was granted for the Legion to construct a clubhouse east of Skjerven Garage.

- City purchased a 690 HP diesel engine for \$63,000.

- Members of the Park District were: R.J. Colwell, M.F. Neste, George Widme, Elmer Argetsinger and J.V. Jaehning.

- Roy Neste was appointed City Attorney at a salary of \$250 per year.

- North Dakota Telephone Company was given a permit to erect a building behind the Variety Store.

May 18: The Council agreed to furnish lunch at the ground breaking ceremony at the Homme Dam.

1949: Application by the Legion for a beer license was turned down because of a conflict with ordinance.

- Council voted to retain train delivery of the mail despite Postmaster Mauritsen reporting that we could receive mail six days a week by star route as opposed to five days a week by train.

- A sewer and water district was set up for the First Replat of Harvey's Addition

- Special assessment bonds were purchased by the First State Bank at 3 percent interest.

1950-1962

MAYOR: M.O. Johnson

Alderman: Bert Hardy, John Bures, William Flint, W.E. Cowger, Fred Silliman, Harold Dougherty, David M. Meberg, O.C. Fursteneau, M.S. Bateman, Jake Maier, Percy Walstad, Wes Samson

Chief of Police: Frank J. Kouba, Sander Kittleson, Lawrence Aichle, Kenneth Moen, Stanley Shaw

Auditor: Elsie J. Catherwood

Assessor: Allan Loughead

Treasurer: G.S. Larson

Police Magistrate: Gunna Skjerven, Blair Chapman, Gust Walstad, Harry O'Brien

Justice of Peace: Harry O'Brien, Blair Chapman, Bert Hardy

City Engineer: George Widme

Health Officer: F.E. Weed, M.D.; H.R. Piltingsrud, M.D.

City Attorney: Roy A. Neste

News Items:

March 21, 1957: Harvey's Second Replat was filed.

September 5, 1957: Kensington Subdivision was added to Park River.

September 17, 1959: First Addition to Kensington Subdivision was added.

1950: E.R. Landsborough was appointed to replace M.O. Johnson as alderman.

- Building permit was granted to O.C. Fursteneau to build a lumberyard.

- The flood damage to the bridge near the light plant has made a temporary bridge necessary.

- Paving is planned for Veterans Avenue and Third Street.

- Bonds were sold to Walsh County Bank at 4 percent interest.

- Council agreed to install new street lighting.

1951: The Legion Post applied for a liquor license. With a tie vote of 3 and 3, Mayor Johnson cast a deciding ballot favoring the license.

- Building permit for the new Our Saviour's Lutheran Church was granted. Estimated cost is \$100,000.

- Council is considering a new type of sewage disposal--pond or lagoon system. A group will go to inspect this system.

1952: An agreement has been signed with the Bureau of

Reclamation for the purchase of electric power.

- City contributed \$1,200 to the Walsh County Fair Association for the building fund.

- Construction of a substation at the light plant was approved.

1953: Street signs were approved and the Commercial Club appointed to plan the numbering of the houses and buildings.

- Arrangements were made to finance the lagoon and substation.

- Representatives from Minnkota met with the Council to plan building a power line from Highway 18 to Park River.

- Les Kelly from the Park Board met and asked assistance for a new swimming pool. The Council agreed to donate \$2,000.

- A contract was signed with the Bureau of Reclamation for power for the next twenty years.

1954: Light rates were reduced by 10 percent.

1955: Revenue bonds were set up to finance the lagoon construction, estimated cost at \$150,000. The Bank of North Dakota purchased the bonds at 2.7333 percent interest.

- Special election regarding the bonds for the swimming pool was approved by a vote of 196 to 78.

- An engineer was hired for curbing streets for a large area of town and paving of part.

- The basement of the City Hall will be used for a teenage canteen each Monday night.

- Engineers are looking into a new water treatment and filtration plant. An estimated cost of \$70,000 was given.

1956: Bids for the new pool were received. Bank of North Dakota bid for the bonds at 3 percent. Bids were accepted from Adamsen Construction at a cost of \$39,000.

- The new water treatment plant and filtration system was installed.

1957: Power was received from the Garrison Dam plant from the Bureau of Reclamation.

1958: Electric rates were lowered by 20 percent for commercial and power and 10 percent on the residential heat and refrigeration.

- The bid for curb and gutter was accepted at \$135,233.60.

1959: Paving districts were set up to pave the areas that were curbed and guttered before. Bonds were sold at four and one eighth percent.

- Zoning ordinances were set up.

- The City purchased "Welcome" banners for the diamond Jubilee.

- A street sweeper was purchased at a cost of \$8,655.

1960: An underground storage tank was installed to hold 300,000 gallons at a cost of \$39,736 for construction plus other expenses.

- Flooding to the park caused damage. The City donated \$600 to the Park Board for repairs.

1962

MAYOR: Harold Dougherty

Alderman: David M. Meberg, Jake Maier, Percy Walstad, Wes Samson.

Chief of Police: Stanley Shaw

City Auditor: Elsie J. Catherwood

Assessor: Allan Loughhead

Treasurer: G.S. Larson

Police Magistrate: F. Lorene Whitesides

Justice of Peace: Bert Hardy

City Engineer: George Widme

Health Officer: H.R. Piltingsrud, M.D.

City Attorney: Roy A. Neste

News Items:

1962: Council agreed to sell the substation and the power line from the City of Highway 18 to Minnkota at a price of \$47,125.10.

- A sewer and water district was set up in Birders Addition.

- Percy Walstad resigned as alderman to run for Mayor to fill the vacancy left by the death of Mayor Harold Dougherty.

1962-1984

MAYOR: Percy Walstad

Alderman: Jake Maier, David M. Meberg, Wes Samson, Clifford Johnson, L.W. Johnson, R.K. Bork, H.R. Piltingsrud, John Waslaski, Harold Garnaas, Harvey Loftsgard, Lavern Hell, Harry Larson, Russell Midgarden, W. Hunter, Arvid Brockman, Lloyd Staven, W.C. Skjerven, Paul Torgerson, Bruce Torfin, Tom Larson, Don Oppegard, Wayne Grinde

Chief of Police: Stanley Shaw, Tom Bouldin, Alden Gronlie, Dale Collins, Gary Lee

City Auditor: Elsie J. Catherwood, Effie Lindgren

Assessor: Allan Loughhead, Oscar Bygland, Grace Maier, Paul Vorachek, Phyllis Maier

Treasurer: G.S. Larson

Justice of Peace: James Worley

Municipal Judge: F. Lorene Whitesides, Ted Weisenberger

Police Magistrate: F. Lorene Whitesides

City Engineer: George Widme, Russell Earls, Russell Lein

Health Officer: H.R. Piltingsrud, M.D.; I.I. Afonya, M.D.

City Attorney: Roy A. Neste until 1979. Stephen Currie, 1979-

News Items:

February 3, 1967: Meagher Acres Subdivision was added.

April 19, 1968: Park Ridge Estates Addition was added.

April 22, 1971: Park Ridge Estates Addition to the above was added.

May 3, 1972: Meagher Suburb Addition was filed.

August 22, 1972: South Ridge Addition was added.

1963: The City purchased a billing machine at a cost of \$3,836.

- Elsie Catherwood resigned as City Auditor.

- State Highway Department met to discuss improvements through town at a cost of about \$25,000. New lighting along the way with the state to pay 75 percent.

- Effie Lindgren was appointed new City Auditor.

- City donated money to install fence and sidewalk around wading pool in the City Park.

- Vote to increase recreation levy from 4 to 10 mills was passed by a vote of 204-198.

1964: Engineers are looking into construction of pipe line from Homme Dam to Park River.

1965: A franchise to Midwest Natural Gas Co. was granted.

- An agreement was signed with Minnkota for power.

- City purchased two lots 150 by 109¼ for a playground.

- City and Walsh Curling Club agreed to jointly construct and use a building.

- Bids were accepted for raw water line from Homme Dam to Park River at a cost of \$89,200.

1966: Paving district was set up for the northeast corner of Harvey's Addition.

- M.B. Overbye met with the Council and stated that he was discontinuing his ambulance service in Park River on January 1, 1967.

1967: Extensive changes in the electrical distribution in the City cost was about \$50,000.

- Part of the City Hall was rebuilt after a fire caused

considerable damage. Bid of \$11,700 was accepted for the roof repair. General obligation of \$50,000 for the City Hall repairs were issued after the special election results were 102 to 67 for the issue of the bonds.

1968: Repairs to the City Hall to Dahl Construction was about \$58,000.

- Park Board advertised for bids for swimming pool.

- Paving project was set up for Regina Avenue, 4th Street and Railroad Avenue West.

- City Hall opening was September 27.

1969: City purchased two lots, Schlenk house, for a parking area.

1970: George Widme resigned as City Engineer.

- City appointed Municipal Airport Authority.

1971: Revenue bonds were issued for garbage collection equipment.

- Kensington area residents east of town asked permission to be annexed for City water and sewer.

- City purchased 40 acres of land from Arvid Gjevre for landfill site.

- SKM Cable TV will start construction.

- City granted Montana Dakota Utilities Gas Company a franchise.

- Water and sewer district was set up for Kensington area.

- A recount was requested from the U.S. Census Bureau.

1972: City purchased the electrical lines in the Kensington Addition from REA at \$26,000.

- Property was annexed to the south and east of the City.

- Paving and curb and gutter district was set up for the northwest part of the City.

- Revenue bonds were issued for \$52,000 for electrical transmission lines in the City.

- A grant was received toward sewer work in Kensington area for about \$23,000.

- The old dump grounds south of town were cleaned up and covered over.

1973: A trailer court permit was given for the area west of the City in the Meagher Addition.

- Agreement was made with Ottertail Power Company to use their men when needed to do work in the City. They will bill the city on an hourly basis.

1974: Municipal Industrial Development Bonds of \$950,000 were set up to help build a potato storage plant south of town.

- A new street sweeper was purchased at \$16,230.

- \$5,000 was donated to the Park Board for tennis courts.

- 28 mercury vapor lights were set up along the highway east of town- 40 foot poles.

1975: Municipal Industrial Development Bonds were set up for the Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan Society at \$775,000. The money was to be used for a nursing home.

- A group met to discuss construction of a motel. They requested a liquor license and package store license. This was granted.

- City lots on main street north of the coulee were sold to Gate City Savings and Loan.

1976: HUD unit was set up in the northwest part of town.

- Engineer was hired to look into a new water treatment plant with a 600 gallon per minute capacity.

- Airport Authority installed new runways and improvements at

the airport just west of town.

Curb, gutter and paving project was set up in the south area of the City.

Parallel parking in the City was tried but changed back to diagonal parking.

New water treatment plant to be north of the light plant.

Property was purchased from Robert Eklund, old Mills' house.

1977: New water treatment plant construction was \$934,500 plus other expenses.

- City donated \$2,000 to Park Board for pool expenses.

- Curb, gutter and paving project in the northwest part of the City.

- New contract with Bureau of Reclamation for power.

- 70 acres adjacent to the lagoon was purchased for future expansion cost of \$55,000.

1978: City entered with neighboring cities to form garbage disposal system. A separate corporation was formed- Consolidated Landfill, Inc.

1979: \$8,000 was donated to St. Ansgar's Hospital out of Revenue Sharing Funds.

- Roy Neste resigned as City Attorney. He served over 31 years. Stephen L. Currie was appointed as City Attorney.

- The Council chambers moved from the basement of the City Hall to the room upstairs over the Auditor's Office. The old Council rooms were remodeled to extend the City Library.

- Paving, curb and gutter No. 4 was \$145,000.

- Paving, curb and gutter No. 5 was \$113,000.

- A new street sweeper was purchased.

- A donation of \$1,311.89 was given to the band for purchase of new uniforms.

- A seal coat was put on Highway 17 through town at a cost of \$9,500.

The building was purchased from M.O. Johnson, the old Arness Cafe Building, for \$5,000 to be used for a Senior Citizen Center. They are hoping to get a federal grant to remodel it.

1980: Purchased Police car for \$6,315.37.

- Purchased new table and chairs for Council room.

- Purchased new tractor and snow blower for \$12,500.

- City joined NMPA for additional power needs.

1981: \$300,000 Facility Plan for improvements to wastewater treatment system was begun.

- City purchased land adjoining park from Larry Lewis at \$1,500.

1982: Contracted Aerial Contractors for electric line work.

- City gave \$2,000 to Park Board for tennis court, \$1,000 to Hockey Committee, \$3,000 to Fire Department and \$1,000 to Senior Citizens.

- Installed underground sewer and water under railroad by potato house.

1983: City gave \$1,000 to Hockey Committee, \$1,500 to Senior Citizens, \$2,000 of Revenue Sharing Funds to Park River Centennial Committee and \$1,000 to advertising Park River Centennial in 1984.

- Aerial Contractors installed new poles and electric line from Highway 17 past City Hall. They installed underground line to the lagoon at a cost of \$20,000.

- Painted the outside of the Curling Club for \$1,350.



1984 City Council

L to R: Steve Currie, Cy Hunter, Bill Skjerven, Tom Larson,

**Effle Lindgren, Percy Walstad, Russel Midgarden, Wayne
Grinde, Paul Torgerson, and Russel Lien.**



Business Firms in the City of Park River

**Brief History of the Firms that Constitute Business Activities
in the City and Who are at the Back of Every Move-
ment for Upbuilding the Community.**

POST OFFICE

(Lola Erickson)

In the year 1882 a postoffice was established at old Kensington with C. H. Honey as postmaster. In the fall of 1884 when Park River became the terminus of the new branch of the Great Northern Railroad this postoffice was removed to Park River, but retained the old postmaster, C. H. Honey, in possession. Mr. Honey remained postmaster of Park River for a great many years, but in the early '90s he was succeeded by Henry Baldwin, who was postmaster for a short time, and later on Mr. Baldwin was succeeded by Oscar Trovatten, who in time surrendered possession to Joseph J. Irwin. Mr. Irwin established his postoffice in a frame building situated on the present site of the Ole J. Thorson store. When President McKinley was elected, a change was again made and George K. McEwan was appointed Postmaster, who removed the postoffice to its present site, but when Mr. McEwan decided to remove to Swift Current, Sask., and tendered his resignation, Lyman Brandt was appointed and the office moved into its former location in the center of the block further south. After the election of President Wilson in 1912 James J. Dougherty was appointed postmaster and has held the position ever since. Mr. Dougherty once more removed the postoffice back to its former and present location. Mr. Dougherty has won for himself an enviable reputation as postmaster, being exceptionally obliging to his patrons of the office, assisted by his capable and painstaking deputy, Miss Florence Erickson. The general public has never had better service in the postoffice than at the present time. Park River has three rural mail routes ex-

tending into the country districts, one to the west, with the popular Wilson C. Kern as manager, one to the north and west with Archie C. Thompson as its efficient conductor, and one to the east with the pleasant and obliging Chas. Hanes as carrier. The business of the office last year amounted to \$57,000.00, while money orders in the aggregate amounted to \$45,000.00 were sold.

THE BANK OF PARK RIVER (Emil Levin.)

In the pioneer days of North Dakota, financial laws were not what they are today. As a result Eastern hocus-pocus concerns and loan sharks infested this territory, feasting upon the unorganized and defenseless homesteaders.

Successive crop failures demanded loans and outrageous interest soon caused a large amount of the land to change hands.

All progressive men of that date clearly saw that something radical had to be done. This difficulty of the Northwest was largely overcome in this district in the year (1886) when Mr. C. D. Lord decided on account of the awful condition of our financial affairs, to better not only his own affairs, but also those of the community by establishing a bank which, with honest deals and square business methods soon gave it the reputation it holds today.

There are difficulties in every line of business and an honest business is always the narrow path. But honest and tireless work on behalf of those interested in its existence soon cleared the cloud away.

For this reason we have today in this progressive, up-to-date, middle west town, in the midst of the greatest wheat

fields of the north, a modern bank, a bank that satisfies the very needs of not only a certain class of business people, but all classes—city and country alike.

Capital -----	\$ 30,000.00
Surplus -----	15,000.00
Deposits -----	100,000.00
President -----	C. D. Lord
Vice President ---	W. S. Smith
Cashier -----	R. J. Holmes
Asst Cashier -----	F. C. Lord

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK (Lillian McAllen)

The first National Bank of Park River, N. Dak. is one of the leading banks of this city, and also of Walsh County. It is considered a safe and reliable institution, and enjoys a large patronage. The capital and surplus is \$55,000.00. The officers of this bank are Karl J. Farup, President, Geo. E. Towle, Vice President, David Beecher, Vice President, and K. D. Bennett, Cashier. Mr. Karl J. Farup, the President of this bank, has been with the institution from the start and is a very enterprising man, as he has risen from Cashier to President, and is back of every movement, which stands for the upbuilding of the city.

FARMERS SECURITY BANK (Oscar Westby)

This bank which is owned and controlled by local capital, started business in September in the year 1909. It has a capital of \$20,000.00, and a surplus of \$1,000.00. Its deposits amount to the pleasant sum of \$200,000.00.

The officers and directors in charge are:

Thomas Johnson, President
Henry Dencker, 1st Vice President.

Claus Bornholdt, 2nd Vice President.

C. P. O'Brien Cashier
G. J. Mauritsen, Ass't Cashier
J. V. Birder

J. D. Robertson
Mrs. Johanna Coulter

J. F. Loveik. Directors.

Mr. C. P. O'Brien held the position as Assistant Cashier from Feb. 1912 to Aug. 1916 after which time he has held the position as cashier.

It pays to advertise in the local newspaper. Try it.

PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS

(Lola L. Erickson)

The doctors of a town usually cluster about the drugstores. When Park River began its existence, there were two drugstores, the Haussamen & Hamilton Drug Store on the west side of the street, and the Dr. James Robertson and C. S. Stranahan Drug Store, known as the "Pioneer Drug Store," on the east side of the street. At the Haussamen Drug Store Dr. J. G. Millspaugh was the doctor, and for a number of years enjoyed an immense practice. He was the first mayor of the town and took a leading part in the affairs of the city, and for a short time held the office of Superintendent of the State Board of Health of the State of North Dakota. On the east side of the street at the Pioneer Drug Store Dr. Melville was doing business, and had a very large patronage, especially among the early settlers around Kensington. One of the proprietors of the Drug Store, Dr. James Robertson, also prescribed for patients, but was not actively engaged in the practice of his profession. A few years later Dr. Sanderson came to Park River and took up his place of business with the Pioneer Drug Store. A number of doctors came to Park River and went among them Drs. Hersey and Whitney, but they did not remain long. A strange thing happened in the history of the physicians of Park River in this: That within one week three of its doctors, Dr. James Robertson, Dr. Melville and Dr. Sanderson died, the two latter dying in the same day, making a great void in the medical profession. In the meantime Dr. K. A. Kjos had come to Park River, and for the next years he built up an enormous practice and was easily the leading physician of the city for a great number of years. On the other side of the street a change had taken place in this that Dr. Millspaugh had removed to Little Falls, Minnesota, and was succeeded by Dr. Samuel Douglas, who also had a very good practice. Another

Doctor, Dr. R. L. Falley also established himself in business, but only remained a few years in the city. Dr. Kjos, on account of his health, decided to remove to Salt Lake City, and sold out his business to Dr. M. Halldorson, a graduate of the University of Copenhagen, Denmark, who unquestionably during his lifetime has enjoyed the widest and most extensive practice of any physician that ever came to the city. His territory extended into the Pembina mountains among the Icelanders at Gardar, Mountain and Akra. Along side of Dr. Douglas Dr. J. D. Windell and Dr. F. T. Waugh had begun practice in the city and formed a partnership and soon enjoyed a splendid practice, and another Doctor, Dr. L. A. Brustad who had just graduated from Rush college, established himself at the Henry Anderson Drug Store. Dr. Brustad purchased for himself the best and most modern electric equipment that any physician has ever had in the city and in time enjoyed a very lucrative practice, but received a proposition to enter a partnership in San Antonio, Texas, and later sold out to Dr. N. O. Sandven, a graduate of the Chicago University, who came here from Iowa. Another doctor, Dr. J. H. Dahl of Grafton, also practiced here for a short time prior to his removal to Devils Lake.

In the year 1911 Dr. Halldorson died and was succeeded by Dr. R. J. Churer, who removed to the city from Lankin where he had been practicing, and in four years time Dr. Church built up a splendid practice and became undoubtedly the most popular physician the city ever had, but only four years was his allotted time at Park River, as he died in August 1915. In the meantime Dr. Sandven had sold out his business to Dr. E. W. McEssy and removed from the city to Arnegard, McKenzie County for a short time. Later on at the request of his many friends and patrons Dr. Sandven came back and again established himself in the city, but shortly afterwards received a flattering offer at Willmar, Minnesota, which he accepted, and again left the city. Dr. E. O. Engesather of Brockett, N.

Dak., had come to the city and practiced here for a short time. Dr. E. W. Essy removed to Fargo and the Anderson drug store was without a physician for a short time. Upon the death of Dr. Church Dr. F. E. Weed

came to the city from Lankin, established himself in business and soon enjoyed a very lucrative practice. Immediately upon his arrival Dr. Weed was appointed Superintendent of the County Board of Health, a position which he has held ever since, until this winter when he received his commission as First Lieutenant in the United States army; he expects to leave for the front soon. In the meantime Dr. M. Hanson of St. Paul had come to the city and took up his quarters at the Anderson drug store and in a remarkable short time gained an immense practice and now enjoys the confidence of the community, not only in Park River, but in a large scope of territory surrounding it, and is doing an immense business.

PARK RIVER FURNITURE COMPANY

(By Oscar Westby.)

The first furniture enterprise in the early days of Park River was established by Geo. H. Glass, while shortly afterwards A. J. Merrian and Smith Merrian opened a furniture store in the south end of the city. In 1890 Mr. Glass removed to the Twin Cities and sold his business to his competitors, so the two establishments were consolidated, and A. J. Merrian became the sole proprietor, and conducted the business for many years until he moved to California. Later on the business was sold to John Aamoth who moved the business to its present location about fifteen years ago.

Mr. David Johnson, its present manager, bought out the interest of Geo. A. Borke in the year 1909. Mr. Johnson carries a full line of up-to-date furniture, rugs, pianos and practically everything for household furnishings. He is also a licensed embalmer and undertaker, furnishing everything in that line.

His business reaches out

all parts of the county, and may trace his pianos throughout a large territory. The piano department consists of a room 25x50, in which he keeps on hand from 10 to 15 pianos of the highest grade.

The furniture room is 50 feet wide and 75 feet long over which there is a balcony which is 25x50 feet. The undertaking parlors are in an adjoining building whose dimensions are 25x40 feet.

The man who wishes to equip his rooms and building with the best there is in the line of furniture, rugs, carpets, linoliums, pianos, phonographs, and the like, will make no mistake, whatsoever, by visiting this fully equipped and modern furniture store.

BRYANT & CO.

(Anna Moen)

In the year 1914 Miss Bryant established a clothing store of which she is the present owner and manager. Under her management this business has continued to grow and develop and today she has a fine line of ready made garments, coats, suits, dresses, etc. Every fall and spring there is a millinery opening held at which time Miss Bryant presents to her patrons the latest and best in women's hats.

For Sale—White Wyandottes Cockerels and cleaned seed barley. Ludvig Gruben, Edinburg N. D.

THE FLOUR MILL

(Cornelius Krollman)

The flour mill, located in Park River, is one of the best establishments of its kind in the state. The mill is operated by John A. Dunn and J. D. Robertson. Under this control it has a record of turning out a brand which is not excelled by any mill of its size. The high rank of this mill is shown by the fact that flour milled here has been shipped to France for the use of our soldiers and our allies.

The daily output of the mill is three hundred barrels. Yet there is never any surplus on hand. The flour is continually sold in

F.F. Spornitz

Manufacturer and Dealer

**Harness,
Collars,
Whips,
Blankets,
Robes,
Shoes.**

Repairing a Specialty

advance. Altho the mill carries a working force of fifteen men and is in operation day and night the production does not always equal the demand.

The flour is divided into different grades which are as follows: the first Patent, the Second Patent and Straight grade. The First Patent, which is the name given to the mill's best quality of flour, is a grade with thirty percent of the poorest part removed. The Second Patent is a grade with five per cent of the poorest part removed. On account of having this percent of the poorest part removed these two grades are of a higher quality than the Straight.

The amount milled is about the same as in other years. The quality of the flour is the finest in years. The reason for this is that the wheat is on the whole very uniform. This uniformity makes it better for milling than any wheat raised in recent years. Even the fine wheat of 1915 does not compare with it in this respect. Moreover, the wheat grown in this section is the equal and in most cases the superior of any wheat grown in other sections of the country. Of course, good wheat yields good flour

and there fore, it will pay the people of this section to patronize a home mill. In addition to getting the best quality of flour freight rates between Minneapolis and Park River will be saved both in the wheat going down and the flour coming back. It stands to reason that this will save money. The mill is always willing to exchange flour

and feed for grain so here the farmers can reap a double advantage for the mill generally pays slightly more than the elevators. Looking at the case from all angles, it seems that it would pay any person in dollars and cents to patronize the home mill and if it should only give them an even break, home pride and feelings should turn the tide in favor of the home industries.

MILLS-FARUP AUTO CO

This business was established in 1914 and known as the Hewitt Auto Co. At that time the concern was very small, consisting mainly of the sales of Ford cars.

Mr. Clark Farup was employed by the firm and by his persistent efforts he became known throughout the country as a very efficient salesman.

In 1915 Mr. Hewitt sold his interest to Mr. Clark Farup under whose management the concern continued until August, 1916, when he went into partnership with Mr. Dave Mills of the First National Bank of this city. The business was at this time moved to the Grand Moving Picture Show building which was remodeled and served as a very roomy and convenient garage, with modern conveniences.

Besides two members of the firm, three service men are employed, who are experts in their special lines of work.

During the year 1917 eighty four cars were sold consisting mainly of Fords and few Dodges and Cadillacs, also a comparative amount of accessories were delivered.

Along side of the Night and day service for automobiles a night and day delivery is at the service of the public.

THORSON'S STORE

(Esther Eaton)

Mr. Thorson's store, on the west side of Briggs Avenue is very highly patronized by the people of Park River.

The stock consists of all kinds of confectionery, fruits and groceries; also school supplies and stationery. Five thousand dollars is the approximate value of the stock.

Three clerks are employed and in the busy seasons more. This year there has been thirty-five percent increase over last year which shows Mr. Thorson's ability to manage this business in which he has been engaged twenty years.

If business does not come to Ole's store he goes out on the street, takes business by the collar and gently pulls it in. No business gets by if Mr. Thorson once gets his hand on it, and generally all who trade there always come back.

GUSTAV BRANDT

Gustav Brandt's store is located on the west side of Briggs avenue. It is one of the most up-to-date stores of its kind in the city, carrying a complete line of men's and boys' furnishings, and ladies' and children's shoes.

Gustav Brandt came of a prominent family from Valdero, Norway, crossed the Atlantic and soon found himself selling Real Estate in partnership with Consul Hobe at St. Paul. Later he came to Park River to manage a Hebrew clothing store for M. Kopelman. Here he met Helga A. Hall, another native of Valdero, Norway. Thus was established "Hall & Brandt" in the old Christ Berg building until the fire of 1901.

Some time later Mr. Brandt bought out Mr. Hall, and has now been managing this business alone with great success for many years.

Mr. Brandt, having two clerks, Mr. Overby, and Mr. Kjos is able to give all good service, and a guarantee of satisfaction goes with every purchase.

He has been in the business for many years and has been very successful.

Mealy—

You could make more fuss about losing a nickel than I could if I lost a hundred dollars Sambo—

You're wrong, boss, the chances are you've got another hundred, but that was my last nickel, it ain't what you lose that makes the difference, it's what you've got left.

THE ALDEN DAIRY

(By Andrew Momerak.)

Adjoining the City of Park River is a farm of four hundred and fifty-eight acres that has been owned and operated for the past fifteen years by the Rev. S. Currie, as a dairy and grain farm.

Up-to-date methods have been practised and encouraged results obtained. The first mure spreader, the first corn binder, the first silo, the first alfalfa introduced so far as known in this section were used on this farm.

Yields of thirty-five and forty bushels of wheat and three hundred bushels of potatoes per acre have been secured. Three fine crops of alfalfa have been cut when the seasons have been favorable.

The first Marquis wheat raised in this section was from seed imported by Mr. Currie from Canada at an expense of five dollars per bushel.

Corn raised on the Alden Dairy farm took the first premium at the National Corn Show, St. Paul, 1916, for the five Northeastern Counties of the State of North Dakota.

An Avery tractor is used for plowing, threshing, filling silos.

A registered Percheron horse of exceptional fine breeding is kept on the farm and a number of good blood mares are raising Colts, but the principal live stock interest is the Jersey herd, which consists of from fifty to seventy five registered animals.

The head of the herd was grand Champion of North Dakota at the state fair of 1916 and

Alden Dairy has more register of merit cows than any other herd in the state.

The products of the dairy are sold as milk, cream, butter and ice cream. Jersey milk, testing from five to six per cent butter fat, is delivered to customers in the City, and Alden Dairy ice Cream has made a reputation for itself.

An important crop at this season of the year is Dakota ice. A hundred tons are packed for use in the dairy, and some seasons two or three hundred tons are supplied to other parties.

Attend the Farmers Short Course.

ELECTRICITY ON THE FARM

(Lola Erickson)

There is no power or force of energy which is so practical as electricity. That is the reason why it is used in nearly all branches of the various trades sciences and arts. It is a fact that most of the mines are operated with electricity. The field is worked with electricity and trains are run by this power.

Electricity can be had from various sources. Machinery has been constructed that produces it but recently water falls and other forms of nature's powers has been used for this purpose. Even windmills are used to generate this power. Electric engines are especially adapted for mountain travel and are superior to the steam engine. Then too, they are cleaner, that is there is no smoke or coal dust, and they have an elegant appearance.

There was a time when light in the house was supplied by a flaring torch supported by a bracket on the wall; when each man carried his own street lamp; when messages were carried by men on horse or afoot; when the quickest and most luxurious form of travel was the stage coach; and when nearly all work was done by hand.

Within the last few years a new servant has appeared to do all this work and much more. The name of this new servant is "Electricity." It lights our homes with a bright, clean and

safe light. Our farm yards are made as light at night as during the day by means of a few so called street lamps.

There are a number of different kind of farm lighting plants. There are the automatic and those which may be attached to the gas engine. The most common power used for generating, are water power, windmills and gas engines, and light is only a part of the service that electricity is ready to render. In the homes, a vacuum sweeper, electric iron, toaster, coffee percolator, sewing machine, fan and washing machine are at the service of the housewife. An automatic electric pump furnishes hot and cold running water to all parts of the house at all times. In the

dairy the milking machine, cream separator, and churn may all be electrically driven. The fanning mill, grindstone, and many other pieces of light farm machinery may be turned by small motors. In the barn it may be used to pump the water and plenty of light is furnished in all plants making a way with the dangerous and troublesome lantern. In the garage light can be had, just when it is needed, and the vulcanizer can be installed at very small cost.

A few years ago electricity was the servant of only the people who lived in towns and cities, and yet its services are needed as much if not more on the farm and in the country as in the city. Years of experimental work, by some of our best engineers, have produced small generating plants of a size suitable for supplying electricity on the farm and at a cost within the reach of every progressive farmer.

One farmer says, "Better and more convenient light and labor saving power, are not the real meaning of electricity on our farm. Thru these things it has made our life easier, more comfortable, more worthwhile, and best of all, our children are going to stay on the farm where they can now have all the conveniences that are to be offered in the city."

SIMS AUTO COMPANY

(Emil Levin)

Sims Auto Company was established at Grand Forks in 1909 by Mr. Sims and a few associates, including C. D. Lord, of Park River. In 1912 two branches were established, one at Park River and one at Crookston. Dave Kinsala was placed in charge of the Park River garage, which position he still maintains. During the busy seasons Mr. Kinsala has an assistant, at other times he manages the garage alone.

Three makes of automobiles are handled by the Sims Auto Company, the Buick, the Hudson and the Packard. Besides they handle farm tractors, and do a general garage business at their Park River garage, and a full line of Buick repairs they constantly keep on hand. Their garage is a veritable Buick service station. Free air is also supplied and oils and gasoline always for sale.

HULTSTRAND STUDIO

(Emil Levin)

The Hultstrand Studio was founded about twenty years ago, by Peter J. Ostboe. On November 1st, 1916, Mr. Fred Hultstrand purchased the business and studio of Mr. Ostboe.

Mr. Hultstrand received his early training as a photographer with Mr. John McCarthy of Milton, now located at Saskatoon. In 1909 and 1910 he was connected with the Barnard's Studio at Wallace, Idaho. In 1911 he graduated from the Illinois College of Photography at Effingham, Illinois, and later on attended the Art Institute at Chicago.

Ever since Mr. Hultstrand took charge of the studio in 1916 the business has been growing continually. He soon found his building and equipment was not large enough to take care of his rapidly increasing business. So in the summer of 1917 the studio was entirely remodeled and a basement placed under the whole building. The result is that there are few studios in the state, that are better equipped for service than the Hultstrand Studio.

Mr. Hultstrand makes a specialty of portraits and commercial work. He has a complete

line of Kodaks, supplies and does framing. When in search of the best work "Call on your Photographer."

F. WALSTROM'S DEPARTMENT STORE

(Annie Moen)

When the town of Park River began its existence S. Cairncross associated himself with H. R. Aslakson of Willman, Minn., established a large general merchandise store under firm name of S. Cairncross & Company. Another general merchandise store was also established at the same time by Jacob P. Birder and P. E. Sandager under the firm name of Sandager and Birder, and these two rival establishments were in business as competitors for a number of years, but in 1890 Sandager & Birder sold their business to Cairncross & Company, and the two large establishments became consolidated, resulting in the birth of the Mammoth department store

of Park River, removing its entire business to the corner where it is at present located. Mr. Cairncross sold his interest in the business to his son-in-law, F. Walstrom of Grafton, and for a number of years the business was conducted under the firm name of Aslakson & Walstrom, but in 1899, when the town of Edmore sprang up on the Lakota branch Mr. Aslakson sold out and removed to Edmore. From that time up to the present date Mr. Walstrom has been the sole proprietor. In 1901 when the business portion of the City of Park River was consumed by fire, this establishment was also demolished with the rest; but in the following year Mr. Walstrom built the magnificent Walstrom Brick Block in which, since that time has been housed the Walstrom Department Store and has ever since enjoyed an immense patronage from patrons, not only residing in the City and adjoining country, but from smaller towns, who come here from far and near to do their buying at this magnificent establishment where business is carried on on a large metropolitan scale. Mrs. Walstrom conducts a millinery establishment

in connection with the business and actively supervises the same. The patronage of this place of business is growing larger every year, and is a magnet which draws trade to Park River from every direction. The clothing department of this store is doing a big business, being stocked with the famous Hart, Schaffner & Marx clothing, besides carrying an exceptionally great assortment of children's clothing. Shoes for gent's ladies and children are kept in stock to suit the taste and pocketbook of all classes of people. The line of ladies dress goods carried by this establishment is exceptionally large, and no woman, however particular, needs to go to another city to obtain any kind of a dress, as this establishment can and does furnish everything along these lines.

The grocery department, which was an important branch of the business, has recently been discontinued. The Walstrom Department Store would be a credit to a city five times size of Park River.

FINNESETH CO.

(Myrtle H. Fedje)

Many years ago when Walsh County was but a place of fertile prairie, a prominent and enterprising young man, full of energy, accommodated and assisted the energetic settlers who were making their first attempt in turning the rich soil of Walsh County into bounteous fields of wheat, by establishing a hardware store in which the farmers could obtain their hardware and building material to erect their dwellings and farm buildings.

In later years he became engaged in the general mercantile business. This new enterprise was a great success and has grown from year to year and is now one of the most enterprising stores in the city of Park River.

The progress of this store is undoubtedly due to successful partnership in connection with the fact that their stock consists mostly of advertised and well known brands such as, Mayer

Shoes. Patrick Dry Goods and Home Brand Pure Foods.

The stock handled is of the very best quality which can easily be seen in the fact that their amount of merchandise sold yearly is equivalent to many other places of better equipments, better buildings and larger varieties of stock.

In connection with the modern supply of groceries there is a shoe department and a variety of ladies' and men's furnishings.

Mr. Finneseth is assisted by six clerks and thru their willingness to accommodate, all customers leave with the satisfaction of prompt attention and value received.

NELS MARIFJEREN & CO.

(John Stevens)

Twenty-eight years ago Aslakson and Marifjeren established a hardware store in this city. During its development the business passed thru many hands, Aslakson Bros. buying out the first owners, Thomas Wadge buying them out and Andrew Hall bought out Thomas Wadge. In 1901 Overby and Marifjeren bought out Mr. Hall.

For six years this partnership in business continued, until 1907 Mr. Marifjeren bought out Mr. Overby, and he is today present owner. They have a full line of hardware, handling the Majestic range, Garland and Radiant heaters, and the Diamond edge tools. They also in addition do sheet metal and plumbing work.

FIRM OF DAVID AITKEN.

(Oscar Westby)

It is with great interest that the people of Walsh County have been watching the beautiful little city of Park River in its rapid growth. Less than twenty four years ago this city was in its infancy, but even then were laid the foundations of many establishments which have developed into large and continually growing enterprises.

It was in the early history of this city that (the corner stone

was laid, or) the seed was planted, which in later years grew to a huge tree with its branches. This important business enterprise was established in 1884 by McEwan and Dougherty, who in 1900 sold out to Leonard and Peters, afterwards succeeded by W. W. Leonard.

In 1903 this plant, as it were, was sold by W. W. Leonard to Mr. David Aitken under whose supervision it has grown into a stately oak with its branches reaching Lankin and Fairdale. At the present time we find Mr. Aitken doing a tremendous business in the line of machine repairing, sale of automobiles, farm implements, threshing machine "Bull Dog tractor" which it has become a patriotic duty to own and operate. He also handles a complete line of harness and is in a position to do harness repairing of all kinds.

ANDERSON'S DRUG STORE

(Annie Moen)

In the fall of '84 these old prairies began to show signs of life. People came from afar and built homes for themselves. The railroad was built up and the village, that was then flourishing, became the terminus. Later the road was extended as far as Langdon.

Stores, a bank and other places of business were established. In the spring of '85 Haussaman and Hamilton, druggists of Grafton, put a branch drugstore in the village, with Henry Anderson as general manager. Oliver Hamilton, one of the partners, also spent part of his time attending to the business.

As the town grew, the business places flourished, and soon the drugstore took on a prosperous air.

In 1888 Mr. Hamilton retired from the business and Mr. Anderson bought out his interest. Mr. Haussaman bought out Mr. Hamilton's interest at Grafton. Mr. Hamilton went to California where he is at present engaged in the Real Estate business. Later Henry Anderson purchased the interest of Mr. Haussaman and became sole proprietor.

etor. Under his able management the store has become a first class drug store. He also carries the Rexall Line of toilet articles and stationery, school books and school supplies. During the summer months refreshing drinks may be had at a beautiful soda fountain.

O. P. OLSON

(John Stevens)

Mr. Finneseth of this city, established a hardware store at Garfield, which was moved in the fall of 1884, when Garfield was moved here. Shortly afterwards O. E. Hasle bought out Mr. Finneseth and was owner until 1910 when Mr. Olson bought the business from Mr. Hasle. Under his able management the business has prospered and he is doing a business of \$22,000 to \$25,000 per year.

He handles the following line of hardware: Round Oak, Radiant Home and Monarch stoves, selling the Hickory brand of tools. He also, in addition to his hardware business, does sheet metal and plumbing work.

A WELCOMING STORE

(Sarah Moen)

The Northwind blew furiously around the corner and it was so penetrating that heads were lowered, and muffs raised to faces in hopes of shunning its cold blasts. Oh, how cold it was. Suddenly there flashed across our view a bright warm light. Glancing up quickly we were met with a welcoming sight of the lit up-window-sign of Otto's Drug Store. Within looked so genial that we entered.

In the front there was on either side, a large mirror, below each was a seat. Along one side there were shelves lined with school supplies and stationery, while the showcases were gay with all manner of toilet articles. On the other side were drugs while the show cases were filled with confectionery, jewelry and cut glass. In the center was a showcase with boxes of stationery, neatly arranged. In the back part of the room was a soda fountain and accessories, while

a pleasant-faced clerk was waiting on customers.

Last but not least, the electric light throwing over all a soft glamour radiating to all, who chanced to come in, a spirit of friendliness and joy.

Attend the Farmers Short Course.

W. W. THOMPSON, Jeweler

(Oscar Westby)

After a general conflagration of the city in 1901 O. E. Huseeth established himself in the jewelry business with John Hanson (Ella Hanson's father) as general manager, and built the beautiful brick block known as the Huseeth block. Later on Mr. Huseeth removed to Great Falls, Montana, having sold his business to Thomas Catherwood. Another jewelry establishment had been established across the street by Ernest Thornberg, who was enjoying a large share of the patronage, and after a few years Mr. Catherwood sold out his interest in the business to Mr. Thornberg, so that the two jewelry establishments became consolidated, and later on the business was removed from the Huseeth block to its present location in the Ebbesen block. Later on Mr. Thornberg decided to remove to Canada and disposed of his business by selling it to W. W. Thompson, the present owner, who by careful judgment and consideration has succeeded in making this store very important for its many patrons, because of the fact that only skilled labor is employed, and because of the fact that every item is given the most careful attention.

As one enters this store, his mind may fall to the old proverb—"All is not gold that glitters;" in taking a second look around you will find this proverb verified as your eyes are held upon a number of sparkling diamonds.

Mr. Thompson carries a complete line of clocks and watches, jewelry, diamonds, and silverware. He is also noted for his expert engraving, and every person, having work in that line to be done, will make no mistake in entering his modern

building.

MEAGHER & SHEPHERD

Implements

(By Oscar Westby.)

In the fall of 1914 Mr. Meagher purchased from David Aithken the coal business which originated in this city by the Robertson Lumber Co. In the spring of 1915 a partnership was established with Mr. Shep-

herd, and in the spring of 1916 they began a machine business along with their coal business. The office and warehouse is located on Fourth Street near A. Finneseth's store and a coal shed is located on Railroad Avenue on Great Northern right of way.

Their amount of business done for the year ending December 31st, 1917, is approximately \$10,000. The members of the present firm are Thomas F. Meagher, who has resided in this part of the state and the immediate vicinity of Park River since 1891. Mr. Shepherd came here four years ago, from Manitoba, where he had been interested in farming and the grain business.

TOM JOHNSON, IMPLEMENTS

By Oscar Westby.)

According to the laws of nature, everything has to increase in size by growing. The same holds true in this particular case. In the year 1884, the birth-year of Park River, there was established an enterprise by John Code and Gunder Olson (the latter was later elected state treasurer) which, by continually growing, has come to the front and which after changing hands several times, stands out very eminent. Later Thomas Wadge and Thomas Johnson became partners as Wadge and Johnson purchased the business of Code and Olson.

The present owner of the establishment became connected with the firm in the fall of 1892. He handles everything in the line of farm machinery and threshing machines, excepting automobiles. When he was questioned in regard to autos,

he said, "I have prayed God to deliver me from them things." He may have been cranking without the switch turned on, but any way we find that under his management this implement enterprise has made some very astonishing records, especially in the sale of binders of which he sold eighty-seven during one season. This business is now housed in a fine cement structure. What better proof of business principals do we want?

MOLLERS AND NESTE MEAT MARKET

(Esther Neste.)

There are two meat markets in Park River, namely: the Mollers and Neste.

Mollers meat market is situated in the northeastern part of town and Neste's in the southeastern part.

Mollers Market deals with all kinds of groceries and meats, which vary in prices.

Mollers Market was opened August 1, 1917, and has two clerks one of whom controls the shop, the other the outside work.

The Neste Meat Market carries about the same line of goods. They carry about \$1,000 worth of stock and the total amount which was taken in last year amounted to nearly twenty thousand dollars. They have two clerks who change about in their work. Most of their meats and fish are gotten from the Swift and Armour and Bergselt companies; groceries from J. H. Allen and Kochler and Hendricks companies; vegetables from Kochler and Hendrick's and also from Parker and company of Grand Forks.

In both the markets the meats are priced as follows

Beef from	.15 to .30 c a lb
Pork	.30 c " "
Sausage	.25c " "
Hamburger	.25c " "
Ham	.10c " "
Boiled Ham	.40c " "
Bacon	.45 to 50 c " "
Pickles	.35 c " qt.

Butter and Eggs are taken in and either cash is given for them or they may be taken out in trade.

MOORE'S CONFECTIONERY

(Annie Moen)

The building now occupied by Moore & Son, was at first a frame building owned by Gunder Nelson, he having an implement shop there. Later it was sold to McEwen & Dougherty. They sold it to Sander Soll who conducted a meat market there. Finally G. L. McLeod bought it from him. He had it remodeled thruout and equipped it with a soda fountain and all the necessities for an ice cream parlor. The back rooms were fitted up for a bakery. The complete stock was bought up and business began in earnest. Business prospered greatly until the fire of 1891, when, with other frame buildings in the vicinity it was burned down. Some of the stock was saved but none of the fixtures. There was some insurance so this greatly helped matters. Removing their stock to a vacant building they kept up the business all summer while men were busy erecting the brick structure which Moore & Son now occupy. In this new brick building the bakery was fitted up in the basement with a fine addition of a large brick bake oven. Business was soon being carried on again but on a greater scale than before.

During its development this Confectionery store exchanged ownership many times. Some of the owners were, Ole Arneson, Mr. Reinertson, Jensen & Son and Mr. Moore. Mr. Moore was alone for awhile then Mr. Gaylord went into partnership with him. This partnership lasted until a little over a year ago when Mr. Gaylord retired. Mr. Moore's son taking his place. They are the present owners of a very up-to-date confectionery store

THE FARMERS ELEVATOR COMPANY

The Farmers' Elevator was established in 1907, with seventy-five stockholders. The first manager was Mr. J. J. McGraw, who held the position for two years. His successor was C. S. Eaton, who has now held the

position for nine years.

The elevator is run on the stock plan. Declaring a dividend of 135% since starting. The plant is worth \$8300 and has a capital stock of \$5300. The average business of a year is \$100,000, dealing in grain and coal.

The officers at the present time are as follows:

President—Thomas Johnson

Secretary—D. G. MacKay.

Treasurer—C. P. O'Brien.

Manager—C. S. Eaton.

Directors—Thos. Johnson, D. G. MacKak, Frank Harris, C. E. Reinertson and David Aitken.

DENTISTS

Dr. R. G. Richardson, the jovial dentist in the Union Block bought out Dr. S. O. Barke five years ago and moved over here from Drayton, North Dakota. The office which Dr. Richardson occupies has been used as a dental establishment ever since the Union Building was erected. Dr. Barke lived and practiced his profession in Park River for two years, before selling out to Dr. Richardson. Dr. Barke was preceded by Dr. Lee, who practiced here for five years. He in turn was preceded by Dr. Colburn and Dr. Colburn was preceded by Dr. Hubler. Dr. Richardson maintains a very up-to-date office and is prepared to do a very high grade of dental work.

Dr. Plunkett has an office located over Walstrom's store. Which is very well equipped for a modern and up-to-date dental practice. Dr. Plunkett came here last fall from Berthold, N. D., opening up the office formerly occupied by Dr. Plaas. Dr. Schram, who is at present located at Ray, N. D., opened up this office about 15 years ago.

S. EBBSEN—TAILOR

(By Oscar Westby.)

About twenty years ago a business was started in this city, by W. T. Fallis, commonly known as Tom Fallis, which ought to be of interest to every person who takes delight in being "dolled up" in the latest fashions. This business like nearly every other like enterprise has passed through the hands of several owners but it

has remained in the hands of the present owner since 1911.

As you enter the establishment you will be aware of the fact that right here you stand face to face with a full line of woolens, and an up-to-date cleaning department which is operated by a man who is noted for his skill in making old suits look new.

After having bought your wedding ring at the Thompson Jewelry, just turn around and negotiate for your wedding suit or have your old one made new. This combination of a store is very convenient for the careful dresser. The man in charge of this department is a man of refined tastes, and it is with great pleasure that I introduce to you Mr. S. Ebbesen, our tailor.

COMMUNITY FLOUR AND GRAIN COMPANY

This is a new enterprise in Park River. It was started and is operated by persons who are citizens of the community and who are interested in the growth of the country and the development of its resources. They believe that if the city is to grow more capital should be invested in local industries and that there is room for more of these, and that there are abundant local funds that the ability to operate them.

They believe that in order to make our farms more productive and increase the value more live stock should be kept, more of our wheat should be ground and the by products retained at home, more of our coarse grains should be ground and fed on the farm. Animated by these convictions they have purchased an elevator and have installed a feed mill with every convenience for doing custom grinding for the farmer.

They have secured the most up-to-date cleaning machinery and have connected with this a and have connected with this a small flour mill for ducts. The motive of the institution will be, Fair Dealing—live and let live and they hope to merit the patronage and good will of the community.

KOWALSKI & EVERSON

(Annie Moen)

The firm of Kowalski & Everson was established in June, 1916. But prior to that the firm's name was Kowalski Bros., Joe and John Kowalski coming here from Moorhead, Minn., about four years earlier and bought out the stock and business from T. T. Thompson, who earlier had purchased

the business from Nelson and Jensen. Tracing the business further back we find that at one time the store was owned by Chas. Anderson, now of Valley City, who sold out to C. E. Nelson. In June, 1916, John Kowalski retired from the business and accepted a position on the road for some wholesale house but later, shortly after the war was declared by the United States he enlisted in the army, was in training for some months at Camp Lewis, Washington, and last December was sent to New York and later to England with our troops and is now serving with our armies in France. Bernard Everson is a Walsh County young man, was for several years a clerk in the Gustav Brandt store and later in the Walstrom store. In June, 1916, he bought a half interest in the Kowalski store and has been associated with Joe Kowalski in the business since that time. The business is now an exclusive grocery store and their business has developed greatly the last year. They maintain their own delivery system and do a thriving business.

Cecilia said that she was going to apply to play the drums in the orchestra, and when they started playing, she was going to beat it.

Trivia

1925: Ed Monahan is in charge of construction for Northwestern Telephone Co. to start building telephone lines from Inkster to Park River. Pisek and Conway will also get connections.

April, 1958 - Fay's Rooming House Razed - built in 1893 by Tom Catherwood who was known as "Big Tom." He owned and operated a clothing store which was said to be the first store in Park River. After the big fire which destroyed much of the main part of the city on February 28, 1901, Mr. Catherwood was the proprietor of a jewelry store. This store was in the building now occupied by the Fashion Shop. He sold the business to the late John Hanson, a watch repair man, who had been employed in the store. He was the father of Ella Hanson and Mrs. Thora Knutson. Mrs. Catherwood was the former Kate Honey, member of a

prominent early-day family here. The Catherwoods left to go west in about 1909, selling their home to the late D.E. Towle, an implement man. The Towle implement business was located across the street from the residence property on the corner now occupied by the Farmers Union Oil. Selling his business to two men named Eastwood and Crosby, Mr. Towle included the house in the transaction. The Towles went to the West Coast in 1913. The new implement firm, in turn, sold the house to Frank Fay, a local lumber man and his wife. They enlarged the house which originally was a square cottage, and started a rooming house. They operated that for about 35 years. After the death of Mr. Fay, his widow, joined by her son from a former marriage, Floyd Arters, ran the business. The Catholic Church bought the property in 1955 from the Arters Estate.

Park River Businesses

ALEXANDER HOUSE



Alexander House

The Alexander House, a dream and a reality. The dream that was started by Joel Midgarden and flourished into a corporation of twenty-two business persons and area farmers.

In 1975, Joel Midgarden, a local farmer, began the dream and by summer of 1975, a corporation grew: Roland Bateman, Terril Borgeson, Selma Clemetson, Ronald Dahl, John Ferguson, Amos Flaten Jr., John Hankey, Henry Kelly, John Kelly, Duncan Meagher, Jake Maier, Joel Midgarden, Donald and Bob Oppegard, Wes Samson, Charlie Schmaltz, Bud Sobolik, Leonard Swartz, Harvey Tallackson, Bernie Troftgruben, and co-partners, Cy Hunter and Merle Onstad. Soon after, the building began by Dahl Construction, general contractor, with Samson Electric, Hunter Plumbing and Heating, and Park River Lumber as sub-contractors. The corporation went through Inn Keepers Supply (A subsidiary of Holiday Inn) to find the elegant furnishings and equipment.

In January, 1976, the package store, that could cater to anyone's need for fine wines, liquor and liqueurs and the motel that features 19 double rooms, opened to the public. In June, 1976, the lounge opened, spacious, relaxing, featuring a balcony during the summer heat and a fireplace for the cold winter nights. Then, finally, the steakhouse, which can handle one hundred people, and serve a variety of excellent foods opened September 1, 1976. The Alexander House also has three banquet and meeting rooms, and since the fall of 1983, also features a Casino Room. A complete package deal that added a plus to Park River-- not only in what it could handle but also employing 35 full and part-time people.

The Alexander House was named after Alexander Henry, first white farmer in North Dakota, who built a post on the Park River in 1800.

In the summer of 1982, nine of the original members bought the corporation and as of March 1, 1983, Charles Schmaltz bought out the nine members and became sole owner and manager.

The Alexander House was a Bicentennial tribute to Alexander Henry and is an establishment that once again put Park River on the map.

THE ARCADE

The building was built about eight years ago to house Paul's Radio and Television Shop. On October 12, 1981, Paul went out of business and I started the Arcade. The Arcade is owned and operated by me with the help of my parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Wilkes, my brother, Paul, and his family.

The Arcade is a popular place for the young people of Park River. There are video and pinball games, foos ball, pool, music, also sandwiches, pizza, candy and pop.

Charles Wilkes

BO-MAR ENTERPRISES

The business firm, Bo-Mar Enterprises began in 1968 in Park River, N.D., owned and operated by Robert (Bob) Eklund until 1977. At that time, Bob's son, Marco, joined him to form a partnership specializing in plumbing, heating, cooling and sheet-metal fabrication.

Bob began by doing general repair work and remodeling jobs. When Montana Dakota Utilities came to Park River and Grafton he started to do sub-contracting with them, thus narrowing the field to Heating, Cooling and Sheetmetal Fab. At this time Marco decided to join him in the business. Marco attended Wahpeton State School of Science and graduated in 1977. In 1980 Marco extended the business to the Walhalla area where he and his family live.

The firm name Bo-Mar is derived from the combination of the two of their first names. Enterprises reflects their wide range of abilities in their fields of service.

BOWL-MOR LANES



Left to Right: Mike Bateman, Doctor Cowger, Dave Meberg, Jake Maier, Percy Walstad and Harold Dougherty

Waiting to throw first ball on each alley are six of the City Aldermen.

On July 1, 1981 the operation of Bowl-Mor Lanes was taken over by Curtis, Duane and Keith Berg, ending the Robert Baumann's twenty-one years in the business.

Brothers Al and Robert Baumann from Westhope, ND were familiar with the bowling trade. Together they already owned one bowling alley in Westhope and another in Mohall. Bob was to be the manager of Bowl-Mor Lanes in Park River.

Robert Baumann and his wife Ruth, along with their ten children, Mickey, Dave, Diane, Jerry, Timothy, Cheryl, Kenneth, Cindy, Margaret and Patty, moved to Park River in

1960 and established the six-lane bowling facility at its present location. Prior to the Baumann's purchase and expansion the building had housed a gas station and garage owned by Bert Hardy.

The Grand Opening for Bowl-Mor Lanes was held on Saturday September 17, 1960 featuring the 1960 Gold Crown Brunswick line of automatic pinsetters and bowling fixtures. During the years of Bob's business each member of the family did his or her part. Whether behind the counter or behind the machines, everyone helped out. The lunch counter soon gained its own reputation for Bob's hamburgers and Ruth's brownies.

With the change of hands another family took its turn. Keith, as acting manager of Bowl-Mor Lanes, is the youngest of the three brothers involved. Keith and his wife Debbie (Jarolimek) are the parents of two sons, Jason and Jonathan. Duane, whose days are spent as parts manager at Opegaard Equipment, is married to the former Shelle Anderson. They have two daughters, Sheila and Nikki Rae. Curtis, the oldest, works for Burbidge Farm. He and his wife Corrine (Askim) have three girls, Jennifer, Jessica and Jerralyn.

Through the months of September through April Bowl-Mor Lanes hosts three mens leagues, five womens leagues and two mixed leagues. Saturdays are scheduled for a Junior league for children ages eight through high school, and Wednesday afternoons are reserved for Senior Citizens. The alleys are closed from May to August each year.

Bowl-Mor Lanes started as a family business twenty-four years ago and remains so today thanks to the loyalty and continued support of the townspeople of Park River.

CLUB BAR

The building at 512 Briggs Avenue South, prior to the middle 30's, was the site of a drug store. With the ending of prohibition, Walter and Agnes Dougherty purchased the business and started a liquor establishment known as "Dougherty's Bar". Along with the spirits sold, they had a lunch counter in the rear of the store where they sold hamburgers and short orders.

In 1947 the business and building were sold to Lloyd and Byrdie Staven. The name was then changed to "The Club Bar" which it bears to this date. One of their first remodeling projects was to close off the stairway to the basement where the lavatories were and build new ones on the main floor. They also replaced the high wooden booths, that practically isolated the occupants from the rest of the customers, with low-back padded booths.

In 1963, Lloyd and Byrdie retired and sold the business to Clair and Selma Clemetson.

At that time, the Sales Barn was a very booming business in Park River so two large oil paintings of cattle raised in this area replaced the wooden, mirrored back bar. The paintings were done by a local artist, Mrs. Bette Galloway, and to this day are a focal point of the bar.

A couple of years later, the building was graced with a new face. The old front with its huge glass windows were replaced with a beautiful brick front and small windows.

In the late 60's, remodeling once again took place. A new tile floor was installed, new booths replaced the old and a new rosewood formica bar was built to replace the old-style wooden one.

In 1971, Clair Clemetson died of Hodgkins Disease. His wife, Selma, took over the business and is the present occupant of the building.

In 1972, Lloyd Staven had a 50-foot extension built to the rear of the building. In that addition, there is now a large lounge area, new modern bathrooms and a small dance floor.

DAHL, GREENAGEL, CURRIE, GEIGER, AND PETERSEN LAW OFFICE

This law firm was formed in 1981 with the merger of the Law Office of Stephen L. Currie of Park River and the Dahl and Greenagel Law firm of Grafton. The firm has offices in both Park River and Grafton.

The Stephen L. Currie Law office was formed in 1979. Prior to that he had practiced, since 1976, with Roy Neste under the firm name of Neste and Currie until Roy retired in 1978.

Following is a history of the predecessor Roy A. Neste firm.

ROY A. NESTE LAW FIRM



Roy A. Neste, Attorney

Roy A. Neste finished Law School at UND and was admitted to the ND Bar in the spring of 1941. He practiced in Grand Forks with a firm for a short time and then went to Los Angeles and arrived there on Pearl Harbor Day and took a job with the U.S. Corps of Engineers for a while. While he was there he enlisted in the Air Force but was put on reserve until there was an opening to go to the Air Force Communications Officer Training School at Yale University. He left the Corps of Engineers as he was offered two positions to participate in the war effort. One was at the Radiation Laboratory at the University of Southern California at Berkely where the pioneer work was done on the Cyclotron which spearheaded the development of the atom bomb, but after inspecting the project he decided to accept a job offered by the University of North Dakota as a civilian instructor with a U.S. Signal Corps training program and stayed there until the program was completed and then went to Sioux Falls as a civilian instructor at the Technical Training School for Air Force radio operators. While there he was called into active duty and went through the Air Force Communication School at Yale and was graduated and appointed to be an instructor there for a year. Then he was sent to Chanute Field in Illinois to be an instructor for instructing combat returnee pilots from European theatre for a while and then shipped out to the Phillipines and was stationed near Manila for nearly a year as a Group Communications, Intelligence, and Legal Officer for the 374th Troop Carrier Group. From there he was transferred to Guam Island for about 3 months and then sent back stateside to be discharged in late 1946.

He made arrangements with Harold F. King to go into a partnership, as Harold was in Grand Forks as the director of the

OPA during the war, but he suddenly took sick and passed away before they could open their office in Park River. Consequently, he opened his own office in two rooms of the Windsor Hotel in 1947. About two years later he moved to the present office site which was the building just north of the Hotel. This building was owned by George H. Glass from 1885 to 1887 when it was deeded to Amos J. Merriam. He then deeded it to Nels N. Rud in 1888 and he then deeded it to Christian Lestrud who sold it in 1920 to Leroy Scidmore who owned it until 1944 when it was deeded to Roy's mother, Ingeborg Neste. It was later deeded to Roy in 1956. The original building of his office was used as a Ford Agency, and it was also a cream station operated by Billy Kern, and later as a cafe and beer tavern by Joe Fail and also as a tavern by Lloyd and Byrdie Staven, and it was also used as a Dry Cleaning Shop.

In 1958 the building was taken down and a new office was built on the same premises.

When Roy started his practice, Murray King and he set up a bookkeeping and income tax partnership called the Walsh County Auditing Service. They ran this business in the same building, starting in 1948 and kept it until Murray moved out of town, but, kept the business going afterwards.

In the fall of 1976 he took in Stephen L. Currie as a partner and then retired as of January 1, 1979. Just before Steve came in, he added an addition to the building to accommodate two offices.

During his practice he was appointed City Attorney for Park River in April 1948 and served in that capacity for over 31 consecutive years which was about one third of the life of the City. The Mayors and councils he worked with were Duncan Meagher, M.O. Johnson, Harold Dougherty and Percy Walstad. He was also the City Attorney for the cities of Adams and Edinburg and Steven and Roy handled the work for Pisek.

The Park Board was set up in 1947 and Roy served as Clerk of that board for over 20 years.

DAIRY QUEEN

The "Dairy Queen" business was an unnamed experiment when it got its start with a 10 cent sale on August 4, 1938, in Kankakee, Ill. A father and son in the ice cream business mix plant in Green River, Ill., had been experimenting with a soft frozen custard. They contacted a friend and good customer who ran the trial sale at his walk-in ice cream store in Kankakee. He dished out 1600 servings in about two hours, and an industry was born. Meanwhile, in Indiana, an inventor had made a continuous batch freezer for the production of frozen custard and was looking for a buyer. The inventor's newspaper ad got them together. The product was named "Dairy Queen" and the first drive-in unit was opened in 1940 in Moline, Ill.

Today, Dairy Queen is much more than a single product. Dairy Queen is a place where a variety of products are made and sold, including not only Dairy Queen soft serve products, but also a line of hot foods and Mr. Misty line of flavored ice. The Dairy Queen system has grown to include over 4,480 stores throughout the fifty states and several foreign countries.

The Dairy Queen soft serve product is a semi-frozen dairy product, made from whole milk. It contains milk, cream, sugar, flavoring and stabilizer and is pasteurized and homogenized before it is frozen and served at a temperature of about 190 degrees Fahrenheit. It is necessary to inject air into the products to make them edible when partially frozen. The amount of air injected is known as overrun.

The Park River "Dairy Queen" was built thirty years ago by

Gene Swartz of Grafton, N.D. After a few years of ownership, Mr. Swartz sold the business and franchise to Gilbert Lee of Park River. They ran the Dairy Queen until they sold it to the Shoults Brothers, Fabian and Ernest, in 1974. Fabian and his wife, Elsie, bought out his brother's share in 1981. The Shoults' presently have a three-year cooperative plan with Larry and Kathy Houser of Park River.

The Dairy Queen in Park River is opened 6 months of the year, seven days a week. There are approximately ten employees at the Dairy Queen besides the Shoults and Housers.

DUNDEE MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY

The Dundee Mutual Insurance Company of Park River is celebrating its 94th anniversary this year. On March 14, 1889, a group of farmers in Dundee Township, Walsh County, met and organized the Dundee, Walsh County Farmers Mutual Fire Insurance Company, which was later shortened to its current name.

This group of 30 charter members were community-minded individuals who recognized the need for low-cost, adequate fire insurance protection on rural farm property. They were permitted to form this corporation by an Act of Legislature of Dakota Territory passed February 25, 1887.

The company issued their first policy, fire only, to Ole H. Rinde on June 10, 1889, and their first claim was paid to T.H. Rinde for the loss of a calf which was killed by lightning. The settlement issued was for the sum of \$30.00.

In the ninety-four year span of the company, Dundee Mutual Insurance has enjoyed their development, both financially and structurally. In its beginning in 1889, the total Insurance in Force was \$53,648.00. According to the January 1, 1983 annual statement, the Insurance in Force reached the exuberant sum of \$313,194,871.00.

In 1959 the company moved into their first office location, which was in a small brick building located immediately west of the old Variety Store on Main Street in Park River. In June of 1977, they moved into their much larger present facility located at 303 Briggs.

"One highlight of the Company had to be in 1980 when we had over 800 claims on one hail storm," reflected Eugene Loftsgard, who is the general manager. It was the biggest loss of the Company (1.3 million dollars), but we did survive. It's the kind of loss that could put you out of business, but it didn't."

Eugene's grandfather, Ole T. Loftsgard, was a charter member of the Company and served intermittent terms as President, Secretary-Treasurer and Director over a thirty-four year period. Eugene's father, Theo. G. Loftsgard, has also been very active in the Company, serving as President for two years, Secretary-Treasurer, which is the equivalent to being general manager for twenty-five years, and has also served as Director of the Company.

The present Company employs three additional staff members besides Eugene Loftsgard. They are Mrs. Gene (Ruth) Larson, as office manager, Mrs. Elva Silliman and Mrs. Sonja Bylin.

The current officers are Lennart Almen of Park River, President; Joseph Laaveg of Park River, Vice-President; and Eugene Loftsgard of Park River, Secretary-Treasurer.

The Directors include: Allen Ruzicka of Fordville, Milton Zahradka of Lawton, Lennart Almen of Park River, Rodney Olson of Adams, Joseph Laaveg of Park River, Wallace Thompson of Park River, Montelle Boone of Grafton, Kenneth Walker of Hoople and Ernest Ramberg of Devils Lake.

ED'S FLOWERS

Unknown to many persons in the area, there is a plant factory in Park River. It operates under the pretentious name, Ed's Flowers. If it weren't for the small sign on the lawn, you could drive by it on Eugene Avenue in Kensington Addition. Life abounds in every nook and cranny from the basement to the living room to the garage to the greenhouse below the river bank to the blooms on the river's edge.

The bushes and trees planted since the Abrahamsons moved to their home in 1969 have grown among the older trees and plantings to enclose their backyard to privacy. It's not perfectly manicured. There are 'wild spots'. The Abrahamsons admit there is always more work asking for attention. It's rather like a comfortable livingroom, well appointed, but used and enjoyed.

Ed claims that Bertha is the plant expert. He just helps her. However, if she gets too carried away, he says, "That's enough". "Bertha never was able to behave herself when it came to flowers," he chuckled.

Ed retired from his work with the State Highway Department in 1969. That year they moved to Park River where Bertha accepted a position as special education instructor in the Park River school system. She taught until 1976 and still does some private tutoring. The Abrahamsons are the kind of people who don't retire. They merely expanded an old interest. Spring planting season is 'rush time' at Eds Flowers. They sell dozens of bedding plants, many home grown and others purchased from wholesalers. Each April their greenhouse begins sheltering seedlings which were started in the basement. The place bustles with customers throughout the spring and is frequented by plant lovers throughout the rest of the year. It is also the sight of Bertha's plant experiments. You can find almost anything there from a common geranium to a lemon tree to orchids. Ed is a weather watcher. He keeps a weather diary. He is also a rock collector and has some unique petrified rocks and arrowhead specimens. He hasn't devoted much time to this interest in the past few years he claims, "now my wife keeps me too busy with the flowers." In addition to the hours of care the plants require Bertha finds time to crochet and read as well as attend to housekeeping responsibilities. "I try not to waste a minute," she said.

In the spring of 1983 they eliminated the bedding plants because of the growth of the cut flower business. They are now affiliated with two wire services- American Floral Society and Teleflora.

ELLA'S BEAUTY SHOP



Ella Hanson's Beauty Shop in the 1930's. People not identified. 408 Briggs Ave. So.

Ella Hanson's career as a beautician and a musician would probably fill a whole book and it would be interesting reading as it covers a span of 50 years of service to the Park River community. To make a long story short, she has related just a few of the most important facts.

Joyce Martin, who was the first beauty operator in Park River, talked Miss Hanson into taking up beauty culture. Ella thought it was a good idea since she wanted something to do during the days while playing with the 3T-K Orchestra at night. She is an accomplished violinist and banjoist.

Miss Hanson enrolled at the St. Paul Hairdressing Academy because there were no beauty schools available in this area. She says, "Even the trip on the train was an experience."

Marcel waving was the principal subject. A marcel was a beautiful wave, put into the hair with a hot iron. It got its name from Frenchman Monsieur Marcel, who perfected the method.

Ella Hanson has gone through every stage of hairdressing, starting with marceling, comb waving, finger waving, pin curl waving, paper curling, rollers, permanent waving and now back to the curling iron and blow combing.

In the "Dirty Thirties" she worked half a day, winding a spiral wave for the big price of \$3.50.

Ella's Beauty Shop is located on Briggs Avenue (Main Street) in Park River and has been in the same location since the mid-thirties. At that time she went into partnership with Helen Meiers, who, according to Miss Hanson, taught her more about hairdressing than what she learned in school.

Prior to that, she was associated with Esther Neste Knutson, who graduated from the Molar School, Chicago, at about the same time Miss Hanson finished in St. Paul. Knutson later was married and left Park River.

Some of Miss Hanson's former help, including Glendora Nygard, Gladys Goodoien and Elaine Gunderson Duray, have their own shops. Mrs. Nygard is at Adams and Mrs. Duray is at Minneapolis.

Miss Hanson's operators at the present time are Margie Laaveg and Mary Ann Pecka, who has been with the firm for 25 years on January 1, 1984.

Pecka and Hanson received awards at a beauty show a couple of years ago. Pecka's was for working as an operator in the same shop longer than any operator in North Dakota and Hanson's award was for being a shop owner actively engaged in hairdressing longer than anyone else in North Dakota.

Ella Hanson passed the first state board exams given in North Dakota and has the number four license in the state. She also served as a director on the State Board for a term. She must have enjoyed her work in beauty culture, since she is still actively engaged in the hairdressing business.

FARMERS ELEVATOR COMPANY

On January 5, 1907, a public meeting was held because there was a feeling there was need for an independent elevator in Park River. At this meeting a committee was appointed to organize the company and solicit stock. In the group were D.E. Towle, C.E. Reinertson, Fred Robb, D.G. MacKay, Dougal Ferguson and John A. Harris.

The stockholders met April 20, 1907, and named the following directors: Thomas Johnson, President; Duncan White, Vice President; David Aitken, D.G. MacKay and Harry Peoples. C.D. Lord was named treasurer June 15 of that year.

The newly formed company purchased, on May 16, 1907, the elevator belonging to the Duluth Elevator Co., for \$6,860 and with the hiring of J.J. McGraw as manager they were in business.

Prices paid in 1907--Wheat, 98 cents; Flax, \$1.17; Oats, 39 cents; coal, \$6.84 a ton.

Some Company Highlights:

- First dividend, being 15 percent, paid in 1914.
- First cleaner installed in 1915.
- First coal shed built in 1917.
- The elevator was destroyed by fire October 15, 1938 and was rebuilt in 1938-39.
- In 1941 the now old annex was purchased from the Cargill firm.
- In 1947 the surplus of the company was divided and the company was made into a cooperative elevator.
- In 1958 after 50 years of continuous service to the community, the need for a larger plant put the directors to selling new stock and notes and a new 96,000-bushel elevator was built between the two old structures. The company now had 300 feet of leased right of way and a 165,000-bushel plant with legs that would carry 13,000 bushels per hour; cleaners to handle approximately 3,000 bushels of grain per hour. This also provided two complete seed cleaning plants and two warehouses for feeds and seeds.
- This elevator had the largest scale in the trade territory, a 50-ton scale 50 feet long and 10 feet wide with a visible dial and automatic scale ticket printer. A feature of the scale was a 32-foot hydraulic dumper.
- The elevator has a walk-in fireproof vault.

• In 1958, after 50 years, the Farmers Elevator Company had an inventory in plant and equipment of \$210,000.00. The company was owned by 202 stockholders who had 1857 shares of stock. Since becoming a co-operative in 1947, the company had paid \$132,560.41 in cash dividends to grain patrons and \$17,482.00 in cash dividends on stock.

• Past Managers: J.J. McGraw (1907-1909), C.S. Eaton (1909-1929), Edgar White (1929-1929), Ed Kelner (1929-1953), E.C. Olson (1954-1957), Duane Halvorson (1958-1967), Si Engebretson (1968-1974), Mervin Olson (1975-1977), Gary Johnson (1978-1981), and Roger Thompson (1982-1983).

• Past Presidents of the Board: Thomas Johnson (1907-1924), Frank Harris (1924-1929), J.D. Robertson (1929-1950), M.O. Johnson (1950-1954), Enoch Larson (1954-1955), Victor Johnson (1955-1957), Arden Burbidge (1958-1959), Norman Larson (1960-1961), Paul Meberg (1962-1962), Eugene Loftsgard (1963-1964), M.O. Johnson (1965-1965), Arden Burbidge (1966-1966), Ambrose Spoonland (1967-1967), Duncan Meagher (1968-1971), Rossford Johnson (1972-1974), Earl Marifjeren (1975-1977), Joe Laaveg (1978-1978), David Bruce (1979-1979), Walter Ramsey (1980-1981), D.U. Meberg (1982-1982), Frank Kostohris (1983).

• Past Commission Firms: McCarthy Bros. Co., C.C. Wyman and Co., Hallet and Carey, Nichols and Taylor Co., Woodworth and Co., Bunge, Inc. (to 1976), Atwood-Larson (1976-1983).

On October 13, 1983, the Farmers Elevator Company was sold to the Park River Farmers Union Elevator.

The seventy-five original stockholders (in 1907) were: John A. Harris, D.G. MacKay, David Aitken, D.E. Towle, C.E. Reinertson, Ed Brett, Harry Peoples, Oscar Lindberg, John Peoples, William Burbidge, D.D. Smith, F.J. Prochaska, Alex M. Ford, John Gillespie, N.J. Marifjeren, Joe Coulter, John Jensen, G.W. Young, T.F. Waugh, Henry Anderson, F. Walstrom and Co., Ole Stevens, John Parke, J.J. Ferguson, George Dobmeier, P. Martin, R.O. Reinertson, Patrick O'Brien, Neil Campbell, Oscar Johnson, O.E. Hasle, F.W. Davis, John Spoonland, O.J. Pederson, Park River Furniture Co., John Lewis, S. Currie, W. Landsborough, J.F. Schufletowski, Joseph Cudmore, Henry

Bates, D. White, Ole Quill, L.J. Marifjeren, Frank Harris, D. Halldorson, B. Middendorf, G.P. Slette, N.G. Grovom, Frank Falter, H.O. Groven, Fred Harris, E.E. Bagne, J. Ross, Dougal Ferguson, Thomas Johnson, Matt Dahm, D.F. Gillespie, William E. Nicklin, Ole Larsen, A. Finneseth, John Bennington, Andrew Osterhus, John McEachern, Moses Harris, Ole B. Madland, John Dunn, John Schneckloth, Alfred Lindell, J.J. McGraw, J.P. Johnson, Hugh Loughead, James McCauley and H. Warner.

FARMERS UNION OIL COMPANY



Cenex Station - Highway 17 East



Ribbon Cutting Ceremony - Grand Opening of Cenex Station - April, 1978 Emil Paur, Louis Kadlec, Governor Arthur Link, Wallace Lien, Richard Lee



Park River Cenex employees, front row, (L-R): Gib Wang, Glen Dahl, Ken Kadlec, Manager; Lois Peterson and Bill Novacek. Back row, (L-R): Wes Carlson, Marvin Onstad, Office Manager; Tom Johnson, Dan Praska, Randy Jensen and Dan Lipsh. August 1983

The Park River Farmers Union Oil Company was incorporated on June 15, 1945. Initial capital was raised to start the Cooperative by selling stock at \$25.00 per share. Some of the early organizers were Elmer Staven, L.J. Hankey, Jeff Kotaska and Joe Kadlec. From 1945 to 1947 a dedicated group of organizers raised \$16,000.00 and sold shares to some 80 stockholders in the area.

On April 29, 1947 the new Cooperative opened its doors for business in Park River. The first location being one block west of the main street, 118, 5th Street West. Wilbert Bartz served as the first manager and Gordon Twedt as the first employee. The first Board of Directors included Elmer Staven of Park River as President; L.J. Hankey of Park River as Vice President; Jeff Kotaska of Conway as Secretary-Treasurer, Joe Kadlec of Pisek was a director; and Arnold Hanson of Grafton was also a director.

The new cooperative sold petroleum and provided automotive service to its member-owners. Gordon Twedt went on to manage cooperatives at Fairdale and Maddock, N.D. Mr. Bartz moved to Grand Forks and was employed at Northern Plumbing Supply. Other early employees were Gordon Greenwood who served as station attendant. In 1949 Elmer Orstad started to work for the cooperative as a trucker and retired in 1969, after more than 20 years of dedicated service. Another early employee was Willis Bogert who served as a station attendant and still makes his home in Park River.

In the spring of 1952, Jake Maier took the position as manager at the cooperative. Before coming to Park River, Jake had managed cooperatives at Adams and Finley, N.D. Jake Maier served for 19 years, the longest length of management, at the Park River cooperative. In 1954, Joe Kadlec, a former board member of the cooperative returned from Minnesota where he had resided for a few years and became employed as a petroleum trucker. Joe also served as bookkeeper before moving to Edinburg and taking the manager's position at the Edinburg Farmers Union Oil Co.

As the cooperative's volume grew, additional staff members were hired. Gib Wang came to work in 1956 as a station attendant. Gib also worked as propane trucker and in 1973 was transferred to the fertilizer department. In 1959 Marvin Onstad joined the staff as bookkeeper and presently serves as office and credit manager. Dan Praska also joined the staff in 1959 as petroleum salesman, a position he still holds at the cooperative. Over the years many dedicated employees started at the local cooperative and went on to become successful and moved up the ladder, such as Ernie Amundrud who went on to manage at Fairdale. Another former employee who went on to manage is George Johnson and is now the manager at Casselton, N.D. Joe Lovcik from Pisek also worked for the local cooperative and went on to manage cooperatives throughout the area. Mike Waechter, another employee who served as Store Supervisor for six years went on to manage a cooperative at Watertown, Minn. Other past managers include LaVern Topp, James Veralrud, DeMars Peterson and Ervin Miller.

In 1962 the Board of Directors went on record to build a propane plant on a site south of the Park River Potato Company. This plant has since been expanded to a 44,000 gallon facility. The cooperative started to sell bagged fertilizer in 1956 in a warehouse located just north of the Farmers Elevator Co. In July of 1967 the Midland Cooperative Bulk Fertilizer plant was purchased and the cooperative expanded into complete dry fertilizer services. The fertilizer department had good growth and in 1970 the Board of Directors acted to establish the first anhydrous ammonia plant in Park River. Some of the past

fertilizer plant employees are Jim Veralrud, and Arvi Koski. The plant is presently supervised by Gib Wang.

The cooperative's success and growth over the years is due to the loyalty and dedication of hundreds of member-owners throughout the area. It is impossible to list all of them but it might be of interest to list some of the board members. Other than the first board members previously mentioned there were Raymond Foerster, Louis Kotaska, Cyril Houska, James Houser, L.R. (Bart) Hankey, Emil Paur, Louis J. Kadlec, Lee Bennington, Wendel White, Richard Lee and Wally Lien. These men are to be commended for outstanding dedication and leadership in making the cooperative a responsible and viable part of our community.

In 1975 an ambitious plan was conceived to undertake major expansion of the cooperative. The Board of Directors developed a plan to construct a complete service center on a site just east of St. Mary's Church in Park River. This plan was presented to the member-owners, in the spring for a facility to house the cooperative's main offices, farm and home store, automotive service department, retail petroleum sales, truck stop services and cafe. The grand opening of the new service center was celebrated in the spring of 1978 with a special dedication ceremony by Governor Art Link.

Since moving to their much larger location on Highway 17 in November of 1977, Cenex is now much better equipped to serve its patrons with a complete line of farm supplies and services. Some of the services which have been expanded over the years include on farm tire service, wheel alignment, propane sales and services, automotive air conditioning, cardrol gas service, which is a special Cenex Card which activates the gas pump for your convenience any time during the night or day. The in-store merchandise also increased, offering more products and a bigger variety since relocating to the large building with easy highway access. In the fall of 1983 a new anhydrous ammonia plant was installed at a location site south of Veseleyville.

In its first year of operation, the cooperative had a total in sales amounting to \$56,000 compared to 1982 when sales exceeded the \$3,000,000 mark. The total assets in 1947 reached only \$29,000, compared to what now totals over 2.5 million dollars.

The current Board of Directors are President- Lee Cudmore; Vice President- Louis D. Kadlec; Secretary- Dennis Cole; Directors- Francis Novak and Allerd Johnson

Ken Kadlec is the current manager of Cenex which presently employs 12 full-time and 3 part-time workers, with Marvin Onstad as Office Manager.

FIRST BANK OF PARK RIVER

The First National Bank of Park River was formally organized in December, 1885, in what was the Dakota Territory, by the following listed stockholders: Sidney Clarke, James Wilson, Jame L. Currie, C.H. Honey, C.E. Nelson, John Ofstedahl, W. Hehne, Jacob P. Birder, David H. Beecher, H.J. Randall, John Moore, C.L. Finneseth of Park River, Josiah B. Sanborn of Medford and Henry M. Beecher, Franklin Edgerton, Chester C. Beecher, H.W. Chubbuck, Henry Harding, William E. Barnes, Robert E. Cooper and George E. Hall of Binghamton, New York. It was capitalized at \$50,000, with 500 shares at \$100 each being issued.

A certificate of organization was issued by the Treasury Department of the United States, signed by H.A. Cannon, Comptroller of the Currency, on January 18, 1886, authorizing the First National Bank of Park River to commence the business of banking.



First National Bank



First Bank Park River

At the first stockholders meeting held January 18, 1886, the following directors were elected: D.H. Beecher, Sidney Clarke, C.H. Honey, J.B. Sanborn, and H.J. Randall. At the directors' meeting the same day, D.H. Beecher was elected president and Sidney Clarke was elected cashier, at an annual salary of \$1200 each. These gentlemen continued in these positions until March, 1891 when George Towle assumed the position as cashier and Karl J. Farup was hired as assistant cashier.

In May of 1896, a special meeting of the board was held and the decision to build was voted on. It was moved and unanimously decided to construct a building of two stories, not to exceed a total cost of \$10,000. The building was constructed on the corner of 5th Street and Briggs Avenue, where it stood until 1961, when it was razed to make way for a new modern bank building.

According to records, Karl J. Farup advanced to cashier in 1907 and in 1915 became president. K.D. Bennett joined the bank as assistant cashier in 1912, advancing to cashier in 1915, a post which he held as late as 1932. In 1917, the first mention of a woman employee was noted in that Myrtle Finneseth was hired as a teller. No further mention is made of women employees until 1930 when Elsie Catherwood was hired as a bookkeeper and Iza Parke as a stenographer.

In 1930 First Bank Stock Corporation of Minneapolis became a stockholder and in March, the First National Bank of Park River assumed the assets of the Farmers Security Bank of Park River.

The following is a quote from The Walsh County Press of March 6, 1930: "A joint statement was issued today by Karl J. Farup, president of the First National Bank and Henry Dencker, president of the Farmers Security Bank to the effect that the two financial institutions had merged their interest and resources, forming a new bank under the name and Charter of the First National Bank of Park River.

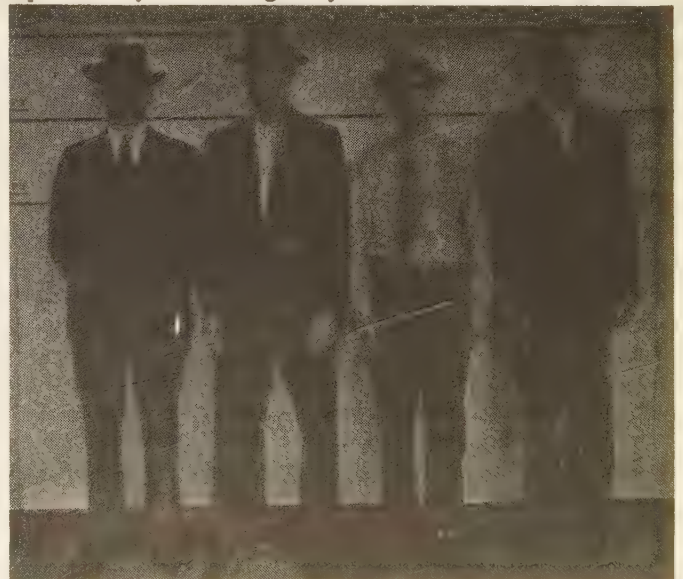
It was further stated that the new institution had made arrangements to affiliate with the First Bank Stock Corporation, a group system operating through ninety-five banks in the northwest. The total resources behind the merger are \$460,000,000.00.

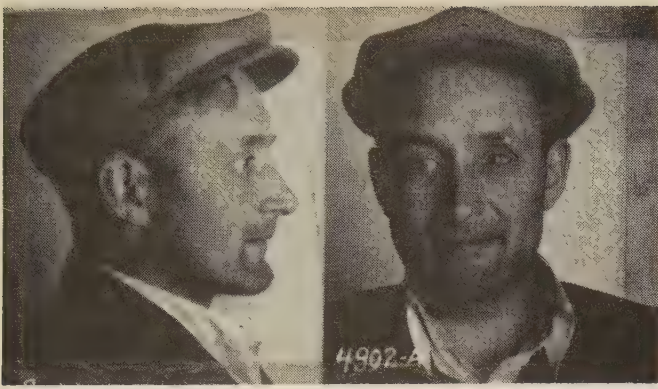
The First National Bank will remain a home governed bank with all local officers and directors. The present business quarters of the old First National will be remodelled and enlarged for new bank quarters. The transfer is being made as rapidly as possible.

Officers of the new banking institution are: Henry Dencker, Chairman of the Board of directors; Karl J. Farup, president; C.P. O'Brien, Vice President; G.J. Mauritsen, Asst. cashier; M.B. Holmquist, asst. cashier. Election of the board of directors will not be announced until next week.

Negotiations have been completed for the consolidation of the First National Bank and the Farmers Security Bank and for the affiliation of the merged institutions with the First Bank Stock Corporation. The great group system of banks is headed by the First National Banks of Minneapolis and St. Paul, according to a joint announcement from Karl J. Farup and Henry Dencker, the presidents of the two Park River Banks."

One highlight in the bank's history is that on November 16, 1931, a daring daylight robbery was brought off. The bandits escaped with all the cash from the tellers' windows, but were captured after a similar robbery in Ipswich, South Dakota and were sentenced to 30 years in prison. An interesting item relating to this appeared in the March 12, 1936 issue of The Press: "An 18-year old boy's desperate plan for delivering his brother from the South Dakota penitentiary at Sioux Falls last Friday resulted in the death of the warden, a convict and a spectator and serious wounds for two other persons. The attempted prison break has local interest because the dead convict, Phil Ray, was one of the four bandits who a few years ago held up and robbed the First National Bank in Park River of some \$7,000. The gang was later captured after another robbery and are now serving long terms in prison. Ray was serving a 30-year term."





Sydney Roycraft, 39 years old, 5 feet 11 inches, weight 173 pounds, was in the Ipswich, S. Dak. robbery.



Reinhold Engel, 47 years old, 5 feet 7½ inches, weight 143½ pounds, was driver of the car.



Eugene Van Tress, 42 years old, 5 feet 6¼ inches, weight 133 pounds, was the man with the gun in the lobby of bank.



Phil Ray, 32 years old, 5 feet 9½ inches, weight 166 pounds, was the leader, the man behind the counter that took the money.

On Saturday, March 4, 1933, a legal holiday was declared by the Governor of the State of North Dakota and all banks were to remain on a holiday basis until the proclamation was rescinded. As history proved, most banks remained closed forever, but apparently the First National Bank of Park River remained closed only for the weekend, as the Board of Directors met again on Monday, March 6th.

In a newspaper article from 1936, at the time of the bank's 50th anniversary, a direct quote is as follows: "About 15 or 20 years ago there were 22 banks on the Hannah branch of the Great Northern Railway north of Larimore. The First National Bank of Park River is the only one of the twenty-two banks still in business. This fact speaks well not only for the management of the bank but also for the city of Park River, whose confidence and continued loyalty has enabled the local bank to weather financial storms that drove others into receiverships. The city is now being rewarded for its faith; the value of a sound bank in a community cannot be measured in dollars and cents.

Early in March, 1930, the First National Bank and the Farmers Security Bank became affiliated with the First Bank Stock Corporation of Minneapolis. Individual deposits up to \$5,000 are now guaranteed and insured by the Federal Government.

The present officers of the bank are C.W. Clow, president; C.W. Farup, vice president; K.D. Bennett, cashier. These men, together with Mr. Farup and B.M. Johnson constitute the board of directors. Although Mr. Clow is nominal president of the bank, he lives at Cavalier and takes no active part in the management. Mr. Bennett, for the past two years, has assumed the active management of the bank's affairs."

In 1937, The First National Bank of Park River voted to dissolve and became the First State Bank of Park River, which it

remains to this day. There have been a total of ten presidents serving this banking industry, including David Beecher as the first president, then in succession Karl J. Farup, A.C. Chapman, C.W. Clow, A.G. Bjerken, K.D. Bennett (1942-1950), D.W. Westbee (1950-1957), G.S. Larson, who served from 1957 until his retirement at the end of December, 1978; Gary Scofield, (1978-1980) and Gary W. Paulson, who serves as the current president. From a total of about 5 or 6 employees, the bank has progressed to a total of 19 employees at the present time.

As of October, 1983, serving as officers are Gary W. Paulson, president, Kenneth E. Raw, vice president; Alice M. Jorgenson, asst. cashier; Joel H. Hylden, loan officer; and Betty V. Rohn, personal banking officer, with Larry E. Houser as manager of the insurance agency. A board of directors, consisting of six members, helps oversee the functions of the bank and these members are Arden Burbidge, Rossford Johnson, Eugene Loftsgard, L.S. Sturlaugson, Gary W. Paulson and Francis M. Schreder.

By way of comparison of growth, at the end of December, 1938, footings for the bank totalled \$476,146, with demand deposits of \$231,841 and time deposits of \$177,035. At the end of 1958, footings totalled \$3,397,819, with demand deposits of \$1,848,160 and time deposits of \$1,234,769. As of December 29, 1978, footings totalled \$16,932,150, with demand deposits of \$4,649,089 and time deposits of \$10,510,075. At the present time, footings are \$26,537,889, with demand deposits of \$2,694,145 and time deposits of \$20,912,150. Capital for the bank is now \$600,000 and surplus is \$600,000.

GATE CITY FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN

Gate City was brought to town by a group of businessmen. The site of Hultstrand's Studio, 104 4th Street West, was the first location when they started on November 11, 1974. Mr. Tom Graham was the manager, Janice Collins, Teller-Savings Counselor and Susan Phelps, part-time teller-Savings Counselor.

The Dougherty Property, 201 Briggs Avenue South, was bought. The house was razed to make room for a new building which was completed in February of 1976.

Carol Dietrich started working in June, 1978 and continued until December, 1980. Lola Hagen started in December, 1980 and continued until August, 1981. Don Swartz was the manager from December, 1980 until March, 1983. Julie Thompson started in August, 1981. The present employees are: Susan Phelps, Branch Manager, Julie Thompson and Carol Dietrich, part-time teller-Savings Counselors. Lola Hagen is a relief employee.

GUSSIES LUNCH



Gust Walstad "Gussies Mobil Station" Highway 17 East.



Christina Walstad "Gussies Lunch"

Gust and Christina Walstad purchased the "Texaco Inn" in 1947 from Frances and Harold Gillespie, and they operated as "Gussies Mobil Station" and "Gussies Lunch". A popular place for young and old to gather for lunch and a good place to have a bite to eat at dance intermissions or after the show or maybe a lunch before going home on Saturday night.

The gas station was rented out after 1954 and the lunch stand was rented out after 1957.

HABILITATION SYSTEMS ASSOCIATES

Habilitation Systems Associates is an independently owned business specializing in the design and fabrication of therapeutic equipment, adaptive devices and aides for therapists, teachers or other health care professionals who treat or teach the handicapped, retarded, geriatric or rehabilitative patient.

The business services a four state area encompassing North and South Dakota, Minnesota and Montana and the approximately 2,850 registered Occupational and Physical Therapists therein. In addition, the company has provided inservice training as far south as Lubbock, Texas and has delivered products as far away as Ashland, Mississippi.

Hospitals and resthomes in this area are also serviced by the equipment repair and preventive maintenance programs offered by Habilitation Systems Associates.

The business is owned and operated by Max Bradley who has over twenty years experience in the design, maintenance and fabrication of sophisticated mechanical and electronic equipment.

HAIR GALLERY



The Hair Gallery 104 4th St. West

The Hair Gallery (located on the south side of 4th Street between Briggs and Code Avenues, formerly housing Hultstrand's Photography Studio).

Bette Jo Dahl opened the Hair Gallery on April 10, 1979. She sold out to Jane Slominski (Mrs. Ernie) on December 1, 1981. Prior to purchasing the Hair Gallery, Jane had worked at Shirley's Beauty Shop in Park River and in Edinburg at Jeannie Dobmeier's Shop. Jane now employs four operators in her shop, Judy Johnson, Miriam Boe, Patty Sue Brintnell and Sherri Samuelson.

Mrs. Slominski and her husband, Ernie, who works for Polar Communications, are parents of two children, a son Ronnie, age 10 and a daughter, Jessica, age 6.

J. BERT HARDY STANDARD STATION AND CHEVROLET DEALER

J. Bert Hardy, a native of Crystal, ND, came to Park River to work for R.H. Douglas Farms. He managed the potato warehouse in Park River until 1945 when he bought the Chevrolet dealership from Tom McNally. He combined the Chevrolet dealership with Standard Oil Station. He retired in 1960.

The original building of his office was used as a Ford Agency, and it was also a cream station operated by Billy Kern, and later as a cafe and beer tavern by Joe Fail and also as a tavern by Lloyd and Byrdie Staven, and it was also used as a Dry Cleaning Shop.



Standard Service Station 107 5th Street West, Bert Hardy, owner - 1945



Hardy's Chevrolet Garage 224 Briggs Avenue - 1946

SAMUEL HOLLAND



Sam Holland's Machine Shop - 314 Code Avenue South

Samuel Holland was born in Norway on April 26, 1859, and immigrated to the United States in the 1870's. He worked for a time in a foundry in St. Paul, Minn., and later became a clock maker in southern Minnesota before moving to Park River in the 1880s. There he set up a blacksmith shop and began his career as an inventor and builder of self-propelled motor vehicles. His first vehicles were bicycles but by early 1900 he had built a three-wheeled tricycle powered by one cylinder, air-cooled engine of his own make and design. He

also built his first four-wheeled vehicle, a steam-powered, tiller steering automobile.

The June 24, 1904 issue of the Park River Gazette-News stated that "Sam Holland built an automobile in the spring. The motive power is furnished by a six-horse gasoline engine." It is quite possible that this is the Holland car that still is in the hands of long time Park River Dodge dealer William Skjerven, Sr. Holland built a new shop in Park River on Code Avenue in the summer of 1905, in an area now occupied by a parking lot across the alley from the Windsor Hotel. He lived with his wife, Annette, and they had nine children.

Holland may have built as many as eight automobiles while in Park River. The last cars built were air-cooled, four cylinder vehicles. Holland left Park River in 1916 to farm in Roseau County, Minn., leaving behind one of the four cylinder engines at the Walsh County Agricultural School in the city. Sam Holland patented an automobile timer with another Park River man, Mr. Catherwood, and later built air hammers for use on constructions sites. Holland died in 1937 while living in Minnesota. Two sons survived; Selmer and Harry, both living in Roseau, Minn.

Holland's automotive inventions have been recorded in automotive history journals of over five thousand different manufacturers that have existed in the United States since the invention of the automobile. Sam Holland is one of less than half a dozen men who built or attempted to build an automobile in North Dakota.

WM. SKJERVEN IN HOLLAND SPECIAL



Creating a sensation on Sunday afternoons and in local parades, is this "Holland Special", one of William Skjerven's collection here in Park River, North Dakota.

The old car has quite a history. Just about at the turn of the century, Sam Holland, who operated a blacksmith shop at Park River, decided to go into the "car manufacturing" business and created several cars known as "Holland Specials". The cars were four-horse-power runabout jobs that were steered by a curved stick.

The car shown in the above picture was purchased about in 1905 by John Midboe, who lived northwest of Adams. He operated the car until he broke a crankshaft. Parts were unavailable so Mr. Midboe pulled the car to a far corner in the yard and forgot about it for some 45 years.

Recently, Mr. Skjerven spotted the ancient vehicle and made a deal for it. The car was in bad shape. The wheels, with wire

spokes, had flattened to the ground with the weight of long years. Other parts of the car were rusted and broken. A new crankshaft was manufactured, the wheels were straightened, the rust removed and broken parts welded and the entire vehicle was shined and polished. In a short time, the car was in running order.

The vehicle has appeared in several parades. (Hultstrand Photo, Park River Press cut).

HULTSTRAND STUDIO



Hultstrand Studio 104 4th Street West



Sylvia Wick



Thelma Wick



The First Public Exhibit of The Fred Hultstrand Collection "History In Pictures" Park River, ND. 2300 visitors Registered.

The fulfillment of a dream became a reality when the Fred Hultstrand Collection, entitled "HISTORY IN PICTURES" was first shown to the public on Sunday, June 28th, 1964. Fred Hultstrand, a professional photographer became interested as a youth in preserving a photographic record of sod houses, early farming techniques, social life, and other aspects of pioneer life in early North Dakota. Mr. Hultstrand was born in a one room sod house in Dakota Territory in the year 1888 to Mr. and Mrs. Anders Hultstrand, who lived in the area which was then known as Sopers Post Office. Indians, prairie fires and crude tools of farming were vivid memories for him.

Hultstrand first became interested in photography in 1905, when he saw a neighbor process a glass plate in his home, and he determined to make photography his profession. He read and studied as much as was possible with the limited number of books and other materials available at that time. Then he worked as an apprentice to John McCarthy at Milton, ND and gained invaluable experience. He went on to further his education in this field and graduated from the Illinois College of Photography and later studied at the Chicago Art Institute. He established his photographic studio in Park River in 1916, and continued to operate it for 52 years, until the time of his death in 1968.

The Collection which numbers about 500 pictures is a pictorial record of pioneer days in many aspects. They portray people in and around sod huts; storefronts; shops and mainstreets; the evolution of such mechanized contraption as threshing rigs, automobiles, and airplanes; and such gala affairs as Fourth of July celebrations; the landing of the paddlewheeler the Minnie H; church socials; and school picnics. The pictures vary in size from 24"x30", the largest, to the smallest-the size of a postage stamp. A photograph of a sod house, served as the basis for the design of the Homestead Act Centennial Commemorative Stamp issued in 1962.



"Good-Bye" To The "Galloping Goose", pictured here are Eva and Fred Hultstrand.

"GREAT NORTHERN PASSENGER TRAIN, last run,
OCTOBER 31, 1959"

FRED HULTSTRAND "HISTORY IN PICTURES"
North Dakota Institute for Regional Studies,
NDSU, Fargo, ND 58105



John Bakken Sod House



"CITY - WINTER 1890"

FRED HULTSTRAND "HISTORY IN PICTURES"

North Dakota Institute for Regional Studies,
NDSU, Fargo, ND 58105



"MILLINERY SHOP IN PARK RIVER"

FRED HULTSTRAND'S "HISTORY IN PICTURES"

North Dakota Institute for Regional Studies,
NDSU, Fargo, ND 58105



"MRS. OLE NESTE with her spinning wheels"

FRED HULTSTRAND "HISTORY IN PICTURES"

North Dakota Institute for Regional Studies,
NDSU, Fargo, ND 58105

In the collection are photographs which Mr. Hultstrand had gathered over a period of many years. Most of them are his own work, but others had been received from various people. Preparation of the exhibit was expensive and involved an enormous amount of work. Mr. Hultstrand acknowledged with grateful thanks the dedicated services of Thelma Wick and her sister, Sylvia Wick, both members of his studio staff who labored long and zealously on the project. The mammoth job of coloring, framing and cataloging the collection was conducted by Thelma and Sylvia. Nearly 300 of the pictures were painstakingly hand colored in oils by Thelma Wick. They are wonderful examples of fine photography and the authentic coloring further enhances them as works of art. Besides the color work, Thelma refinished and painted the large frames; titled and typed descriptions of all the pictures; wrote countless letters to all parts of the country in search of old pictures. Sylvia worked on research for the display; filed and catalogued the pictures; and framed the entire collection. Included in the collection is a picture of the sod house his parents lived in, which Mr. Hultstrand said he would not sell for \$5,000. The work on the collection was all a labor of love for Mr. Hultstrand and the Wick sisters, they said. All three were interested in history, especially that pertaining to pioneer life in northeastern North Dakota.

The Collection has been shown in its entirety twice in Park River at public exhibits, and exhibited at Grand Forks with around 200 of the pictures being shown; and parts of it were permanently exhibited at the Studio in Park River.

Upon the death of Mr. Hultstrand, the Collection became the property of his daughter, Donna Jean (Hultstrand) Verwest of Finley, ND. As her brother Victor was a graduate of the University of Fargo, Donna Jean decided to give the collection to the Fargo University, as a Memorial to her brother, Commander Victor Hultstrand, Navy Air Force, who as killed in an air crash, while testing a new type of Helicopter.

HUNTER PLUMBING AND HEATING

In June, 1961, we came from Hatton, North Dakota in partnership with Bob Mohagen and started business in a leased building belonging to Alvina Fail on Main Street of Park River.

A metal warehouse was built on leased property belonging to the Great Northern Railway.



Hunter Plumbing and Heating

After approximately 1½ years the partnership was dissolved and Hunter Plumbing and Heating was established in the warehouse building on Railroad Avenue West, which is still the present site of the business. A number of years later, additional storage was obtained by purchasing a building from Park River Potato directly across the street from the main business building. Business is done in all surrounding towns and communities.

After 20 years of service, Cy (as he is known to all) has partially retired and turned the business over to his son, Peter, who graduated with honors from NDSSS in Wahpeton in 1978.

Business is now being conducted in plumbing, heating and air conditioning.

Submitted by Willis R. Hunter

EARL INFELD, O.D.

Dr. Infeld was born in Fordville, N.D. to Stanley (deceased) and Marion Infeld. He attended grade school at Fordville, graduated from high school in Mahanomen, MN., attended the University of North Dakota and graduated with a Doctor of Optometry Degree in 1951 from the Illinois College of Optometry. He is licensed to practice in both Illinois and North Dakota.

He opened a practice in 1953 in Grafton and was there until 1960. He was then associated with a group practice at Devils Lake with A.O. Wold and Sons. He spent one day per week in Park River in 1960. In 1963 he began solo practice in Grand Forks, retaining a satellite office one day per week in Park River. In 1968 he closed the Grand Forks office and had a full schedule in Park River. He is married to Helen Kvidt Johnson of Grand Forks. Their children are, Stephen Johnson of Bemidji, MN., Jennifer Saltness of Kansas City, KN., Timothy Johnson of East Grand Forks, MN and Christine Crowe of Calgary, Alberta, Canada. They have six grandchildren.

Dr. Infeld is active in the Park River Commercial Club, Park River Lions Club (president in 1980) and the American Legion Paul Farup Post No. 147 (Commander 1975 and 1983) and the Centennial Committee.

JOHN DEERE IN PARK RIVER

The first John Deere dealer in Park River was Thomas Johnson. He opened for business in about 1908 at 316-318 Briggs Avenue in the building now occupied by Wayne's Variety. This building is on the East side of the street about halfway between Third and Fourth Streets. Machinery at the time included the famous John Deere plow, Van Brunt drills, Deere and Weber buggies and wagons, Waterloo engines and the Emerson plow.



Oppegard's Equipment - Highway 17 West

In the fall of 1914 T.F. Meagher bought the coal business owned by David Atkin. He operated this business out of a little "L" shaped building behind the Finneseth Store- at the present time the Welch Bakery. The coal was stored in a building by the railroad tracks just south of the depot. August 27, 1915, T.F. Meagher and William Shepard formed a partnership handling two separate lines of machinery- McCormick and Deering. Mr. Shepard died October 20, 1918 and Mr. Meagher operated the business alone until 1928. Mr. Meagher also sold horses and had some dealings with David Atkin who owned a livery stable and also had an International Harvester franchise. Money was in short supply and Mr. Atkin traded his IHC franchise to Mr. Meagher for horses. Since Mr. Atkin's business was just across the alley from Mr. Meagher's, Mr. Atkin let Mr. Meagher operate the IHC business from an office in his building. The businesses prospered and when, as a result of a disastrous fire in a livery barn at the opposite end of the block, Mr. Meagher was able to acquire a suitable location for a new store. In April 1920, he bought a livery barn from Mr. Towle which he tore down, and used that lumber plus lumber from an opera house to erect a new building on the north side of 5th Street just west of the depot. They moved into the new store on July 2, 1920. This building was remodeled from time to time but remained an implement store until it was sold to Polar Telephone Company in 1966.

In about 1925 Mr. Meagher acquired the John Deere franchise. In 1929 International Harvester added six speed trucks to their line and since Mr. Meagher wasn't interested in selling vehicles he gave up the franchise.

Arthur Meagher joined his father in 1928 and the company name was changed to T.F. Meagher and Son. Arthur worked with his dad until 1934 when he took over the Standard Oil Bulk Agency from his brother, Alex.

In 1936 Duncan Meagher joined his father in the implement business and in 1945 bought his father out but still operated under the name T.F. Meagher and Son.

Duncan Meagher operated the business for about thirty years and during that time there were many changes. One of the biggest changes was the transition from horse power to tractor power bringing the demand for trained mechanics to service these machines. Duncan guided his business through the years between the "popping johnnies" to the new generation 4010 tractors by being alert to the changes; insuring that his mechanics were well-trained by sending them to all the John Deere schools and providing them with the latest tools.

July 1, 1963 Duncan sold his business to Orville Hagen of Adams and John P. Wild of Langdon. After a short time Mr. Wild bought

out Mr. Hagen and operated the store as Park River Implement. In 1967 he erected a new building on Highway 17 at the west edge of Park River and moved the John Deere business to this location where there was more room. Mr. Wild sold out to H.G. Oppegard and sons, Robert and Donald, on September 7, 1970. Mr. Oppegard died but his son Donald continues to operate the business known as Oppegard Equipment Company. The John Deere machinery line has continued to grow over the years and is a very popular line. Fifteen people are employed at this store and one of the salesmen is John A. Meagher, the grandson of T.F. Meagher. Donald Oppegard is following in his father's footsteps also for his grandfather and great grandfather operated John Deere stores in North Dakota.

KAP, INC.

Silliman Implement was purchased by John Kelly and Louis Papenfuss in April of 1969. The name of the new business was chosen to be KAP, Inc., by incorporating the initials of the new owners.

When the business was purchased by John and Louis, Oldsmobile and Buick vehicles and International Harvester farm equipment were the lines of equipment sold. In the fall of that year, GMC trucks were added.

The company employed six people then, and offered service for machinery and autos and a parts department.

Since then, numerous improvements have been made. A tractor shop was added, increasing available space for service repairs. A pole shed was built for storage and the car lot was black-topped. The show room was remodeled in 1975, adding extra office space.

Also, during 1975, the parts department and the accounting department were computerized. The parts inventory for International Harvester was placed on the SPIM system. Parts can be ordered, inquired as to parts availability at the parts warehouses, or other IH dealerships, and information on shipment of parts can be acquired in a minimum of time.

The accounting department was added to the DADS accounting system through International Harvester. All accounting procedures are implemented through this system, thus increasing productivity.

The company has now grown to eighteen employees and looks forward to continued service to its customers.

KOTASKA DRAY LINE

Alois Kotaska, Jr., born in Spillville, Iowa, came to North Dakota with his parents at the age of 3. He grew up on a farm in the Pisek area, and in 1901 took over the farm from his parents. It was that year that he also married Rose Kadlovec. Two children, Emma and Ernest, were born on this farm. In 1911, they quit farming and moved to Pisek and then to Park River, where "Louie" was employed as a fireman in the Park River Roller Mill, and were caretakers for the L'Alie Park until it was destroyed by its owner. In 1915, Alois bought a local dray line from George Anderson, which was quite a flourishing business as everything came in by train, such as fruit, lumber, cement, coal, etc., and which had to be hauled to the stores, or various houses around town. Draying was a year around job. In the winter, there was coal to haul and in the spring, mounds of ashes to be hauled away. Plowing gardens was also a sideline, as the draymen had the horses necessary for the work. Alois started his drayline with draft horses, but by the time he gave it up he was driving a Model T Ford.



Alois Kotaska and his Dray Line

LANDSBOROUGH'S CORNER

Landsborough's Corner is located at 320-322-324 Briggs Avenue South, Park River, N.D. All buildings thereon were built and owned by Elmer R. Landsborough.

Elmer Landsborough was born on a farm in Kensington Township on which his father had homesteaded in 1881. His father died in 1907 and the family moved into the city of Park River when he was seventeen years old. He secured work with the Fred Walstrom Department Store, as well as working as a carpenter's helper with Ike Edwards. During the years 1914 and 1915, he was an engineer's assistant while learning to be an engineer for the Great Northern Railway Company at Great Falls, Montana.

According to the Park River Gazette News, dated June 9, 1916, at the age of twenty-five years, Elmer Landsborough and John Gergen bought the confectionary business from Mr. E.J. Mahn. It is believed that this business was located in the Woodward Block. This cafe was operated until both men enlisted in the U.S. Army on February 7, 1919.

January, 1917

Landsborough and Gergen have removed from the Woodward block to the Plain building and opened their store in the new quarters to the public Tuesday evening. A program of music was rendered by Eaton's eight-piece orchestra and a large throng of visitors were present to visit the store and enjoy the program. The new quarters look very attractive and the different departments of the store are arranged in a convenient manner.

On April 18, 1919, Landsborough purchased from J.N. Mollers Co. all stock of groceries, meats and all fixtures used to conduct a retail business to be located on Lot 13, Block 10, Original Townsite of the City of Park River, all as shown on a Bill of Sale witnessed by C.P. O'Brien and G.J. Mauritsen.

On May 26, 1923 he bought from the Farmers Security Bank, Lots 1 and 2, Birder's Second Addition to Park River, on which he built the most up-to-date slaughter house this side of Grand Forks to complete the meat department of his store.



Elmer Landsborough's Meat Market and Grocery Store - 1924.



Elmer Landsborough's Meat Market (IGA Store) about 1930.

When liquor became legal in North Dakota, he was issued one of the earliest state licenses and a receipt for a city license, dated December 3, 1936, shows an off sale license was \$200.00 and an on sale license \$400.00. A flour storage room in the back of the grocery store served as the first liquor department while he was building an off sale liquor building on the west 60 feet of Lot 14.

In the spring of 1937, he moved the meat market and grocery store into the new building on Lot 14 and extended the building on Lot 13 to accommodate an on and off sale bar in the front and again remodeling with all new bar equipment on July 11, 1938.

Also during the summer of 1937 the building behind the meat department was extended to accommodate a locker plant. An excerpt from the Walsh County Press, dated May 26, 1938, reads as follows: "The new refrigerated locker system, installed in the Landsborough Market was put into operation for the first time last Saturday evening. Necessary adjustments were made and the plant was put into full operation this week and, according to E.R. Landsborough, the proprietor, is now functioning perfectly."

During the fall and winter of 1939-1940, the building on Lot 13 was extended to the alley and on February 27, 1940 a complete four-lane bowling alley with all the necessary equipment was purchased.

On April 19, 1944 Landsborough purchased from Walter and Inez Jaap Lot 15 and a year later built an entirely new building to house a new bowling alley and lunch room. The building where the bowling alleys were was now the home of the new locker plant and the meat market placed in the center of the building with the grocery store in the front end. The middle building now became



Opening Night for Ladies Bowling League - 1940



Landsborough's Bowling Alley - April, 1940

the bar, for both off and on sales. The rear one-third of the building was converted into a modern electric meat processing plant. Since Mr. Landsborough now had all three lots covered with cement and buildings, he decided he finally had it the way he wanted it for a one-stop corner.

On April 30, 1945, the grocery department was sold to Joy L. Ratliff.

On June 30, 1947 the liquor department was sold to Eugene E. Kelner.

LARRY'S REFRIGERATION

Larry B. Clemetson began his business working out of his home on Railroad Avenue in 1970 doing mostly household refrigerator, freezer and air conditioning repair. As business grew, mainly the commercial business, he built a shop on his property in 1974. Larry also started selling central air-conditioning and a complete line of refrigeration products for both the residential and commercial markets. Larry works by himself except when he needs help installing bigger equipment.

Larry moved his business to Highway 17 west in 1982 and is expanding his business to include sales and service of heat pumps, heating equipment and solar energy products. In the near future, Larry plans to be able to provide every need for residential and commercial refrigeration, air conditioning and heating, complete comfort care.

LARSONS CAFE

Larsons Cafe started business on August 2nd, 1950 in the building presently occupied by the Dug Out Bar. Neome Larson purchased the cafe from Bob and "Oppe" Oppeboen, who owned and operated the cafe upon buying it from Chike and Annie O'Brien. During the time Neome operated the cafe, she also operated Hughie's Drive-In on the corner west of the present Dairy Queen.

Neome moved the business across the street in 1968. She bought the building from Harold and Agnes Falter who ran "Childrens World" clothing store. Before them, Sam Ebsem owned the building and operated a dry-cleaning and tailoring business.

On April 1st, 1977, Neome's son, Dayton, took over the business. Dayton added on a banquet room and extra storage room to the back of the cafe. They have had the privilege of serving many politicians including Gov. Allen Olson, past Gov. Link, Sen. Quentin Burdick and others. The cafe has achieved a reputation for good food and pastries such as hot beef and sour cream raisin pie.

LARSON CHEVROLET COMPANY

Larson Chevrolet Company was established in Park River in February of 1954 by James A. Larson, formerly of Grafton, N.D. The first headquarters was at Lien Oil Company in the City. There the new units were serviced by Lien Oil Company who had a repair department in connection with the sale of petroleum products. Later, Clarence Lien, Jr., terminated his oil business and Larson Chevrolet Company took over the repair shop and serviced and repaired new and used units.

The present headquarter was built in 1967 and the business transferred to the new location in September, 1967, where it continues to be located.

Mr. Larson recently turned the business over to his sons, William and Thomas. The business has been re-organized and is now Larson Chevrolet, Inc. William is the manager of the service and parts department and Thomas is the franchised dealer and manager of the sales and general business.

JOHN LEWIS CENTENNIAL FARM 1884-1984

John Lewis came to Dakota Territory from Renfrew, Ontario in 1881. For two years he worked for John Harris at a place now called old Kensington. He filed a claim on the northeast quarter of section 19 in Kensington Township. After he had built a claim shack and broke some sod he returned to Renfrew, Ontario to obtain household and farming supplies. He brought back a team of horses, a yoke of oxen, a walking plow, a cradle scythe, a brood axe, a hammer and a musket with powder horn and a supply of powder and ball. He also brought dishes, blankets, an awl with a good supply of thread and wax for harness and shoe repair. Two more items brought from Ontario were a huge iron kettle and a large tin trunk. Many of these items are still in the possession of the Lewis family. The permanent home was located near the northeast corner of the quarter because John Lewis found there an ample source of good water. He dug a well into which he placed a homemade wooden pump. After that he built a barn. The house was not built until sometime later.

John Lewis reported that in the first years a band of Indians made a temporary camp in the shelter of a ravine a few hundred yards to the south of his barn. He said the Indians were friendly and caused him no trouble.

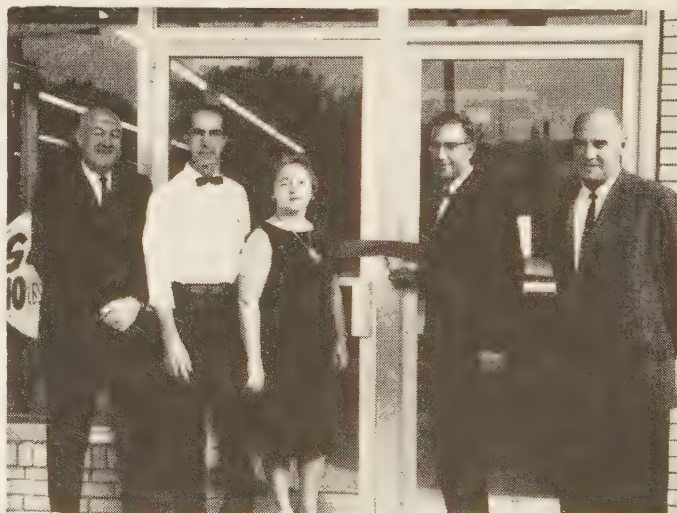
In August of 1884 John Lewis obtained his warranty title to the northeast quarter of Section 19. Meanwhile, he had continued to make improvements in that area that would become his permanent home. He planted a grove of trees to shelter his farmstead from the north and the west, and also started a small fruit orchard with plum, apple, crabapple and cherry trees. Three oak trees that John Lewis planted in this period are still growing.

On June 17, 1891 John Lewis and Harriet Davis were married by Rev. Hunter, a Presbyterian minister at Park River. John and Harriet lived in the hayloft of the new barn while the farm house was being completed. The house which was completed in the fall of 1891 was considered large for that time. It had three large rooms on the first floor and three rooms and a closet upstairs. It was one of the first farm houses in the area to have a cistern for rain water and a basement with stone walls.

John and Harriet Lewis had six children: William H., Elizabeth, Clinton D., John L., Frances H. and Albert D. Lewis. Of the six children only Frances Kristjanson is still living.

The northeast quarter of section 19 in Kensington Township was John Lewis's original homestead and it is still in the possession of the family. After the death of John Lewis, Harriet Lewis and two sons, Albert and Clinton, farmed the land. Upon the death of Clinton and the retirement of Albert Lewis, the farming was carried on by Clinton Lewis, Jr., a grandson of John Lewis. In 1971 Clinton Jr. died and the farming operation was then taken over by Larry Lewis and his wife, Wanda Kay. The farm is now known as the Lewis Ranch Red Angus. Larry is another grandson of John Lewis. The original farm house is home to Larry and Wanda Kay and their three children: Brandon, Tracton and Lacey.

MAHRERS RED OWL OF PARK RIVER



Grand Opening - 101 3rd Street West. Frank Walker, Lorenz Mahrer, Verna Mahrer, Percy Walstad, Mayor of Park River, and George Rustan, Contractor.

On October fifteenth 1946 Lorenz and Verna Mahrer purchased one half ownership of the grocery store known as Bures Fairway Foods, 407 Briggs Ave. S. from Clayton Everson. The other partner was Kermit Anderson formerly of McVillie, N.D. The Red Owl store at that time was a corporate store occupying the south half of the Variety Store building.

On December 11th, the Mahrers including Nancy, who was four, David who was three, and Alan, one, moved from Edgeley, N.D. to the McIntyre apartment on Harris Avenue. After the war,

living space was scarce, twenty people shared one bathroom in this building, but we coped.

Married in 1949 the first six years were spent in Edgeley. Business was always part of Lorenz's life, when at age eleven he delivered groceries and did other errands with his little red coaster wagon. He was in partnership delivering milk for a dairy, ran a small grocery, was manager of the S and L grocery department at Valley City, N.D. In 1939 he was named manager of the Red Owl corporate store at Edgeley. Verna worked in and was part time manager of the Bluebird Beauty shop at Valley City. For a time both attended V.C. State Teachers College.

John Bures, former owner, bought back into the business when Kermit Anderson moved back to McVile to take charge of the family store.

The Red Owl Agency purchased by Byrdie (Mrs. Lloyd) Staven was up for sale. The Mahrers bought it back on March 6, 1951. The store building was on the corner of Briggs and 5th, on the east side of the street, 424 Briggs Ave. So. Bud Corbit was the meat man and Helen Connor was in charge of produce and checking. Part time checkers were Grace Woolridge Midgarden and Marie Radliff Hajicek. The store grew into a family activity, many nights and Sundays were spent restocking the shelves. Bud Corbit moved to Grand Forks and for a time Lorenz was the meat man. Michael, born December 15, 1948 was practically raised in the store. He would crawl above the meat cooler and take naps. One night we forgot him sleeping in the box bin. By the time we checked nose count, he was pounding on the store door trying to get out.

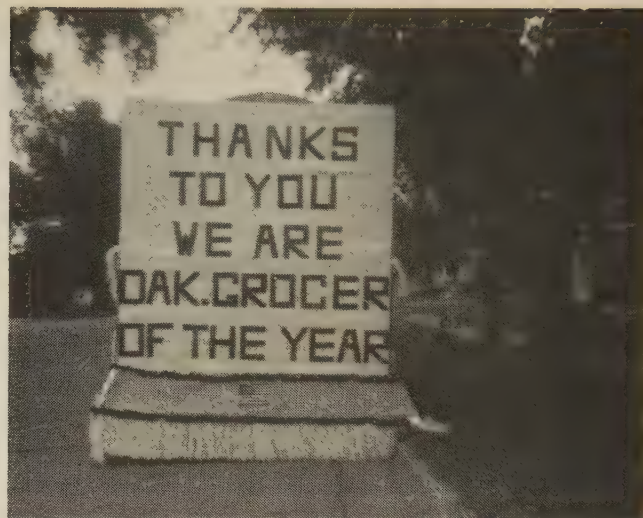
Lorenz gave the two older boys, David and Alan, a sample of business when he bought them a popcorn machine to operate in front of the store on Saturday nights. Inside the store Nancy had her own stand for selling candy bars, she was checking out small orders when she was ten years old. Carry out boys from our first Red Owl were James Mosolf, Kenny Radliff, Jim Hobbs, Richard Ferguson and Barton Severson.

In 1956, Joy Ratliff closed out his I.G.A. grocery store one block north on the corner of 4th and Briggs, 324 Briggs Ave. So. The business reverted back to the owner Elmer Landsborough. We signed the lease for that store with twice the area and we inherited a precious meat man, George Williams. Frank Walker, a Park River product, the only Red Owl vice president to retire as such, was George's brother-in-law. George had a twinkle in his eye and loved baseball. His helpers in the meat department while we were in Landsborough building included; John Waslaski, Gummy Ratliff, and Bob Baumann.

In September 1963 the Mahrer Red Owl moved again, north one block and across the street, 101 3rd St. West. The Bateman house was moved to make way for the 6,000 square foot building with parking space for twenty cars. Carry out boys during the twenty years we were in business at this location included, Mickey, David, Jerry and Tim Baumann, David, Alan and Michael Mahrer, Gaylin Moe, Skip Hauger, Larry Kenny, Terry and Kevin Larson, Steve Berntson, Leigh Brandt, Jerry Daley, Wayne Johnson, Mike Brevik, Cliff Johnson, Les Hanneson, Stanley Shaw, Daryl Larson, Gerry Sandy, Dennis Kelly, Phil Setnes, Jim Schultz, Michael Tesch, Bruce Phelps, Bob Fontaine, Dennis Vavrosky and Keith Sorenson, Mark, Kurt and Gregg Espelien.

The meat men who worked during the twenty years in the new store included besides Gummy Ratliff and John Waslaski were John Huber, Joe Eckert, Erwin Steim, and Jim Mosolf.

Meat wrappers and checkers included: Marilyn and Julie Smestad, Bea Houdek, Doris Youngquist, Vi Erickson, Carol



Lorenz Mahrer honored - 1976

Alvestad, Mrs. Evenson, Marcia Gillespie, Pat Fischer, Lois Anderson, Delaine and Janice Frovarp, Sylvia Tesch, Ruthie Mastre, Eileen Johnson, Ingie Steim, Corliss Monsebroten, Carmen Clemetson, Jane Capp, Karen Seboe, Charlotte Dahl, Sharon Schufletowski, Mary Larson, Sharon Flaten.

Lorenz, Verna and daughter Nancy each assumed one third managership. Thanks to the many faithful customers, the store enjoyed a successful business. The store business was sold to the Leevers Bros. Super Valu on June 1st, 1981.

MALDE AND SHARPE HARDWARE

Malde and Sharpe Hardware, 405 Briggs Avenue South opened for business on June 22, 1931. A couple of the opening days specials were pliers- 10 cents and polished hickory or oak axe handles- 9 cents. Olaf Malde moved his family here that spring and Gabriel Sharpe and his family came here in 1934 from Cooperstown, N.D. Malde and Sharpe had purchased the building and stock of what had been Nels Marifjeren Hardware. The owners were progressive businessmen, supplying the trade area with what was needed-- from washboards and boilers to the latest in automatic washers and dryers along with the usual hardware store items. They sold the store to Harvey Loftsgard on July 1, 1965.

Along with the other businessmen on Main Street, they have supported the numerous civic affairs such as the annual 4th of July celebration, Potato Fair, hospital construction.

Both men and their families were active in Our Saviour's Lutheran Church. At one time, both men served as volunteer firemen for the local fire department.

Submitted by Ina Claire (Malde) Squires

MELVINS STORE FOR MEN AND LADIES

The store is in the building that originally housed the Farmers Security Bank. When the Bank was consolidated with the local First National Bank, Leonard Chapman bought the building and operated an insurance agency and a clothing store in it which he cleverly named the "Outlaw Store." After working as an operator on the Great Northern Railroad for 27 years, Melvin G. Neste and his wife, Ida, bought the store from Chapman in 1945 and renamed it "Melvin's Store for Men." Following the war years merchandise was hard to find, but Melvin sought out

nationally advertised lines and built the store up on the strength of quality merchandise.

The last traces of the Farmers Security Bank in the building were removed in 1953 when Melvin tore out the old vault that took up much of the floor space. Lee Neste joined his parents in the business on his return from Korea in 1954. In 1963 Lee and his wife, Eileen, purchased the business from Melvin. The only change in the name came in 1982 when the Nestes added ladies ready-to-wear and the store became Melvin's Store for Men and Ladies.

THE MIDGET LUNCH

In April, 1932, Clinton and Albert Lewis opened The Midget Lunch, on the corner of Briggs Avenue and 5th St. West. They rented the building from Charles Harris, who had a Cities Service gas pump there at one time.

The lunch counter and some equipment was bought from Lloyd Nelson who ran a lunch room called "The Green Lantern". Albert and Clinton changed it to The Midget Lunch, they sold milk, cash and carry, hamburgers, pastries, pop, ice cream, and other sandwiches. A drink of milk at the counter was 5 cents a pint. A quart of milk was also 5 cents to take home. Hamburgers were 5 cents. Coffee was 5 cents. A lot of school children as well as teachers had their noon lunch as there was no lunch program at the school.

The lunch room was well known for its good home baked foods, it was a family business, the food was all baked at the farm, even the hamburger was mostly home-grown beef. They even made hamburgers to take out which was a first in Park River.

In 1943 they closed, and later sold the equipment to Garnet Gillespie who ran a lunch room for a time.

Clinton and Albert are both deceased.

NORTHSIDE GROCERY

The Northside Grocery Store, located on Highway 17 west, formerly stood on Briggs Avenue (Main Street) and was used as a "grease pit". It is thought to be one of the oldest buildings in Park River. In 1936, it was moved to its present site, under ownership of the Mutual Oil Co., and was to be a new venture in an oil-grocery business. Dr. Irvine was president, Clarence Lien was vice president, and Chris Lucken managed the grocery store. However, after a few years, Lucken became the independent owner of the store.

Homer Lucken, son of Chris, worked with his father in the store, and after he was discharged from military service following World War II, he began managing it, and took over ownership of the store in 1947.

In 1960, Homer sold the store to Glen Cudmore, who ran it until 1964, and at that time sold the store to Mary and Harry Larson. Judy Veralrud worked in the store for Mary, and in 1975, Judy and her husband, Junior, bought it from the Larsons. They were in the business until June, 1983, when they sold it to Marvin and Evelyn Flaten, the present owners.

O.P. OLSON HARDWARE STORE

O.P. Olson purchased the O.E. Hasle Hardware Store in April of 1910. Hasle had purchased it from C.L. Finneseth in 1892 who had started the first hardware store in Park River in 1884. O.P. Olson operated it until 1946 when he suffered a stroke. At this time, it was sold to his son, Earl L. Olson who operated the store under the name of Olson Hardware. He operated this store until



O.P. Olson, Park River 418 Briggs Ave. So.

November 15, 1966 when a fire destroyed the business. Inez Olson was bookkeeper all the years that her father and brother operated this store. The ruined building was sold to Lloyd Staven and remodeled into the present Dental building.

OVERBYE HENRIKSEN FUNERAL HOME

M.B. Overbye and Ann (Gronvold) Overbye purchased one half interest in the Johnson Funeral Home and Furniture Store in 1945 after being employed there since 1931. They bought out the firm entirely in 1949 from Dave Johnson. Mr. and Mrs. Overbye operated both businesses until 1958 when they sold out the furniture business and constructed a new modern brick and concrete structure at 512 Briggs. They served the community out of this modern building until they sold their business in 1969 to Harold Kamrowski and Martin Nygard of Grafton.

Kamrowski and Nygard operated the funeral home until 1978 when they retired and sold the funeral home to Mr. and Mrs. Terrance Henriksen of Rugby. Henriksens operated the funeral home, changing the name to Overbye-Henriksen, out of the existing building until the summer of 1981 when the building was sold to the Christian Faith Fellowship church and a new building was constructed east of Park River on Highway 17. The decision to move out of the business district was difficult but the ample parking and more energy efficient new building have proven to make the move a good one.

PARK RIVER ELECTRIC

The Marvin Sorensons bought the Park River Electric from J.C. Kenney, M.B. Overbye and Alex Meagher, March 9, 1950. The Sorensons returned from Long Beach, California to purchase the shop that was doing business in the Overbye Furniture Store which was south of the old bank building. It was owned at one time by David Johnson and was also the business place of the Overbye Funeral Home.

In August of that year the business was moved to the Bowling Alley building owned by Mrs. Sorenson's family- the E.R. Landsborough family. They occupied that building until 1956 when they moved to a smaller shop on the west side of the street then owned by Harold Falter. They continued their electric construction, appliance and TV business until 1967 when Mr. Sorenson was hired by the North Dakota Electrical Board as an Electrical Inspector serving the northeast corner of the State. He held that position until his death on May 1, 1983. The Park River Electric was purchased in 1967 by William Botner of Grand Forks.

PARK RIVER LIVESTOCK SALES BARN



Aerial View of Livestock Sales Barn - February, 1956.

A "Livestock Sales Barn" in Park River was emphasized as "It would be successful", "It wouldn't be successful" and "It could be successful", was voiced by the individual opinions when 150 area farmers and businessmen decided to invest their money in the plant in 1955. The cost of the original building consisting of the auction ring, 32 pens, an office and restaurant was \$132,650.00.

Lawrence Wilkes, a farmer, cattle buyer and trucker from the Langdon area accepted the offer to manage the new business.

This new industry also brought several people in to Park River for shopping and various other reasons as well as gave way to additional employment of 10 regular employees and as many as 30 employees during the weekly sales.

While the bulk of the credit for making the "Park River Sales Barn" a "going business" must be given to Manager Wilkes, he insisted that he had a great deal of support from ten other people who comprised the force at the pavilion at the time of opening. They include Lawrence's wife Mary; John Kram, formerly from Langdon; Allen and Edna Swenson, formerly from International Falls, MN.; George and Fannie Swenson, formerly from Munich; Mavis Harpestead, formerly from Devils Lake (later married to Roger Nelson); Roger Nelson from Adams; Mrs. Peder (Gwen) Pederson and Mrs. Robert (Alvira) Gillespie, both from Park River.

On February 1, 1956, the first sale was held. From then on there was a sale every Wednesday starting at 1:00 p.m. and running sometimes until 2:30 a.m. Special sales were also held on occasional Saturdays during the year. The first thing ever to be sold in the ring was a mule, otherwise everything from livestock to bicycles were sold there. Oscar Stromli served as the Auctioneer.

Prices were terrible at the start, but it was a challenge for Wilkes to get it started and built up without any money. No one wanted to invest any more money into it at that time.

4-H sales were held for many years at the sales barn until there was space available in the fair buildings constructed on the High School grounds.

The first year's sales totaled \$800,000.

The business grew rapidly and soon space was a problem so an additional hog and sheep barn and many additional pens were built bringing the facility to a total of 120 pens.

In the fall of 1960 they ran the largest sale the local auction has ever had. That day 1,800 head of livestock passed the auction block in a 13½ hour sale. By this time Francis Chromy and Charles Wilkes had joined the Auctioneer staff.

After a period of six years and \$13 million worth of livestock sold, Wilkes sold the business to Larry McEnroe of Grand Forks on April 1, 1962. McEnroe too was a cattle buyer and operated a

buying and selling station in Grand Forks prior to purchasing the Park River Sales Ring.

In 1971 the "stockholders" sold their shares to the team of Dennis Bengtson, Kenneth Solberg and Kenneth Mattern at which time they bought the business from McEnroe. A short time later Bengtson bought out Solberg and Mattern and became sole owner.

In 1977 Bengtson sold out to Don Nowell.

In 1982 it was sold to J.V. Kristianson and Clayton Morrison.

PARK RIVER LUMBER CO.

Otto Fursteneau built the lumberyard in 1949, calling it Fursteneau Lumber, Inc. Orville Pederson was assistant manager and Otto's wife, Margaret, was bookkeeper.

Gerald "Bud" Sobolik and Clem Houdek bought the lumberyard on May 1, 1962, and changed the name to Park River Lumber, Inc.

In 1977 Bud became the sole owner of business. Since then, the company has expanded, acquiring the West Side Drive-In restaurant east of the main complex and the John Cost property on the northeast side. The main showroom and offices were built in 1971 and 1972, and the addition to that building was built in 1979 and 1980. Total land area is 300x200 feet with 20,000 square feet of store and shed area.

The business offers customers materials for building, planning service, floor and wall coverings, paint, plumbing and electrical supplies and hardware.

Besides Bud, there are presently six people employed at Park River Lumber. They are Myron Kalgard, Bart Capouch, Daryle Nickerson, Glen Momerak, Jack Gillespie and Bud's wife, Shirley.

PARK RIVER VET CLINIC

Present day veterinary service began June 1, 1959 when Lee and Bonnie Sturlaugson and family came to Park River, N.D. The business occupied the Sturlaugson residence until the fall of 1962 when the first portion of the Park River Veterinary Clinic was built by Dr. Sturlaugson and Dr. Robert Nelson. The official grand opening of the new clinic was held on February 1, 1963. A major addition was built in 1975, and the clinic now covers almost 7,000 square feet.

Serving both the pet owners and the farm livestock owners, the business has grown steadily during the past twenty-five years.

Veterinarians who have served from one to two years here include Dr. Andrew Peterson, Dr. Frank Skalko, Dr. Dean Lamb, Dr. Mike Tarrier, Dr. Mike Breider and Dr. Jon Owen. Several young men and women have been employed either part-time or full-time over the past several years as clinic assistants and Veterinary Medical Technician trainees. Additionally, the Park River Veterinary Clinic accepted several students for their externship program when they were seniors in a college of veterinary medicine.

The present staff members (and the year they began employment) include four veterinarians: Dr. Lee Sturlaugson (1959), Dr. Gerard Dahl (1969), Dr. Howard Zent (1980) and Dr. Larry Schuler (1982); one Veterinary Medical Technician, Cathy Jo Johnson (1973); one full-time Clinic Assistant, Peggy Seboe (1982); a part-time Clinic Assistant, Robert Risky (1983).

We congratulate Park River, N.D., on its 100th birthday. It is an excellent place to live and work.

PAUL'S MOBIL SERVICE

Jerry Smazik built this business in 1958, and operated it as a gas station.

J. Stanley Shaw purchased the business from Smazik in 1966, added a two-stall shop to the gas station and operated it as a Texaco station.

Paul Torgerson bought the business from Shaw in November 1974. Torgerson operated it as a Texaco station until 1976, when it was changed to Mobil, and has been a Mobil station since then. A self-service island was installed in 1978.

Daniel Lipsh leased the station for one year- June 1981 to June 1982. Since then, Torgerson has operated the business.

Paul's Mobil is located on Highway 17 east.

MOBIL BULK PLANT

The Mobil bulk plant began in Park River in the early 1940's, by Harold Gillespie. Percy Walstad was agent from 1947-1957. Other agents through the years were Glenn Bruce, Dennis Dahl, Louis Papenfuss, and Ken Jacobson. In 1974, Paul Torgerson became a consignee for Mobil. Mobil sold the business to Gouldings Mobil Products from Devils Lake in November 1983. Paul Torgerson is agent for Gouldings at the present time.

POLAR RURAL TELEPHONE MUTUAL AID CORPORATION



Polar Rural Telephone Mutual Aid Corporation - 110 4th Street East

Polar Rural Telephone Mutual Aid Corporation came into existence when it was incorporated on March 4, 1952. The first Board of Directors were Denis Monson, Lloyd Gire and Orlin Nelson, all of Edinburg, North Dakota; Andrew Slettebak, Petersburg, North Dakota; Robert McConnachie, Inkster, North

Dakota; Irvin Hanson, Dahlen and Petersburg, North Dakota; W.H. Krueger, Niagara, North Dakota; E.K. Olafson, Mountain, North Dakota; and Sam Mork, Petersburg, North Dakota. In the original Articles of Incorporation, Polar was authorized to borrow money in amount not to exceed two million dollars. In 1953, this was raised to ten million dollars, and in 1968 to twenty-five million dollars.

It should be pointed out that even though the original Board of Directors worked diligently in establishing what eventually became Polar Rural Telephone Cooperative, other community minded people expended much time and effort in assisting these men. A number of meetings were held immediately following the amendment to the R.E.A. Act, which provided for rural

telephone loans, in organizing the various communities which either had no or very little telecommunication services. One of the first requirements of R.E.A., which had to be met prior to the processing of a loan was the raising of approximately \$50,000 in local equity. The membership and equity requirement in the early stages of the rural telephone program was established at \$50.00. As time went on, R.E.A. relaxed the requirement for equity, so that only the membership was necessary. Membership in Polar was established at ten dollars.

In organizing the Board of Directors, Irvin M. Hanson was selected to serve as President, Andrew Slettebak as vice president, and W.H. (Bill) Krueger as Secretary-Treasurer. I.M. Hanson served as president until his death in March of 1968. Orlin Nelson of Edinburg became president and served in this capacity until he resigned in April of 1971, at which time vice president Lloyd Gire became president. Conrad Rygg of Clifford, North Dakota was elected to the board of directors in 1962 and served until his death in February of 1966, at which time Orville Hochgraber of Galesburg, was appointed to complete the unexpired term of Mr. Rygg. Keith Schluchter of Cavalier was appointed by the Board of Directors to complete the unexpired term of Irvin Hansen. Arthur Loraas was elected to the board at the annual meeting of 1965, defeating Denis Monson for this position. J.C. Kenney of Park River was elected in 1966, defeating E.K. Olafson and Gordon Ralston for this position. Eugene Loftsgard was appointed by the board to fill the unexpired term of J.C. Kenney, who passed away in December of 1970. Roy Bigwood of St. Thomas was appointed by the board to fill the unexpired term of Orlin Nelson, who resigned because of health reasons. Kenneth Moen of Inkster was elected to the board in 1971. He replaced Robert McConnachie of Inkster, who retired from the board.

W.T. (Bill) DePuy of Grafton was very instrumental in developing and organizing rural telephone service, not only for what is now known as Polar Rural Telephone Mutual Aid Corporation, but also the other telephone cooperatives in other parts of North Dakota. Mr. DePuy served as Polar's attorney prior to and following the incorporation of Polar.

Communication Consultants of Fargo, and in particular Vern Armfield, President, spent long and tiring hours in engineering a telephone system for Polar, which is second to none in this United States. Mr. Armfield also worked with other telephone cooperatives in the state, in developing their systems as well. Communication Consultants continues to serve as Polar's consulting engineer.

On July 1, 1954, the first full-time employee began work for Polar. This was John G. Walters, who became coordinator. It was at this point in time that the board took action on establishing the headquarters at Grafton, North Dakota. Office space was graciously provided by Attorney DePuy on a temporary basis or until such time that separate offices could be established. With a desk, chair, typewriter and a paper box for a file, John Walters began his employment with Polar. The main thrust of Polar's activities in these early months of existence, was to organize the various areas wanting a change in their telephone service, into working groups for the purpose of collecting the required membership and equity. The purchase of certain telephone properties in Nelson, Grand Forks and Walsh County took place during this time. In September of 1954, the purchase of Hunter Telephone Company in Cass County and the Ryan Telephone Company of Inkster, North Dakota, was completed.

The work load was building rapidly and in January of 1955 the board of directors authorized a secretary for John Walters. Initial steps were taken at this time to investigate possibilities for

the headquarters office space.

The finalization of the purchase of North Dakota Telephone Company properties in North Dakota took place in the latter part of 1954, with the actual take-over and operation of this property in March of 1955. The operation of the Hunter and Inkster exchanges took place in April 1955.

The exchanges involved in the acquisition of the North Dakota Telephone property included Neche, Bathgate-Hamilton, Cavalier, Drayton, Crystal, Hoople, Park River and Michigan. Of these, Neche, Cavalier, Crystal, Hoople and Park River were existing dial exchanges, however, the number of subscribers on a rural line was as high as twenty, and the physical plant was in need of upgrading. Updated area coverage surveys (ACS's) and area coverage designs (ACD's), became a necessity prior to application for an R.E.A. loan and the rehabilitation of these exchanges.

John Walters was selected by the Board of Directors in March of 1955 to become Polar's first Manager. He served in this capacity until his retirement on December 31, 1973. During this same month, Rex Brown was hired as Polar's first Plant Manager and served in that capacity until leaving the company in July of 1958. He also served as Assistant Manager.

The month of March saw the transfer of former North Dakota Telephone employees Lawrence Vandal, James LaMont, Robert Klemisch, Orville Laugtug and Matt Reidhammer to Polar.

The establishing of the headquarters office in the former Wilson-Dougherty building in Grafton took place the latter part of March 1955. By mid-April, a full complement of office personnel had been employed. The first Office Manager was Larry Even. To continue the work of sign up of new members, obtaining easements, doing area coverage surveys and area coverage design work, Winten Gunderson was employed. It could be said that during the months of March and April 1955, the nucleus of the permanent work force for Polar became a reality.

The first R.E.A. loan contract, amounting to \$2,309,000.00 is dated September 29, 1953. The first note to the U.S. Government was for the amount of \$1,000,000.00 at an interest rate of 2 percent, to be repaid over a thirty-five year period. Since the first loan, \$8,874,000.00 has been loaned to Polar by R.E.A. at the 2 percent interest rate. Another loan for \$1,382,000.00 was at a rate of 5 percent, and two loans from the Rural Telephone Bank, one of which is for the amount of \$2,614,000.00 at 7.5 percent and the other in the amount of \$2,659,000.00 at 6.5 percent.

The first outside plant construction took place at Cavalier during the summer of 1955. The City of Cavalier was in the process of a major street improvement program and the decision was made by the board of directors, from recommendations made by the consulting engineer and plant manager, to install a buried conduit system, with associated manholes extending from the central dial office (CDO) and through the main business district. The contractor was K.F. Gudmundson of Mountain, North Dakota.

The first central office equipment, unattended dial, bids were opened October 20, 1955, for the exchanges at Michigan, Dahlen, Petersburg, Niagara, Inkster, Arthur and Hunter. The successful bidder was Stromberg Carlson. Plans and specifications for outside plant construction for these exchanges were approved October 20, 1955, with bids being opened in November of 1955. T.P. Construction Company of Wadena, Minnesota was the low bidder. The amount of this contract was \$352,563. Construction on the outside plant began in mid-1956, however, it should be noted that the contractor was having difficulty in receiving materials ordered, especially poles. As a consequence, this construction project lagged. Construction began in the Dahlen-Petersburg area and continued on into Niagara, Michigan, Inkster, with

Hunter and Arthur as the finale of the "A" section construction program.

The central office building bids for the "A" section were opened April 4, 1956, with Adamsen Construction Company of Grafton, North Dakota, being the successful bidder. The amount of this bid was \$41,919. Construction began immediately with completion of these buildings in the latter part of 1956 and early 1957.

During 1956, Polar acquired the Galesburg Telephone Exchange from Pioneer Telephone Company. The Edinburg-Gardar Telephone Company, Glasston Mutual Telephone Company, St. Thomas Rural Telephone Company and the South Carlisle Telephone Company were also acquired.

The installation of central office equipment for the "A" section by Stromberg Carlson began in the third quarter of 1956 and completed in early 1957. Petersburg and Dahlen exchanges were the first two exchanges cut over to modern dial service with no more than eight parties on the rural lines. Within the base rate areas, the new dial service provided for one and two party business and one, two and four party residence service. Rates established for B-1 was \$6.50 and B-2 was \$5.00. For R-1, it was \$4.00, R-2 was \$2.75 and R-4 was \$2.50. Multi-party rural service was \$5.00 for business and \$4.25 for residence. These rates were not changed until December 1958, when a block rate system was approved by the Public Service Commission. Blocks were established in increments of 300 up to the "E" Block, where all exchanges over 1201 were placed. Again, rates established were applied to single and party line services. "A" block remained the same as the original rates with a 25 cents increment for each block thereafter. The approved block rates remained in force until November of 1966, when the all one-party rate was approved by the Public Service Commission.

With the construction program well on its way in the "A" section, Polar forged ahead with bid lettings and construction of "B" section, which included Bathgate, St. Thomas, Cavalier, Edinburg and Galesburg exchanges. Outside plant contract went to Sorkness Construction Company, Fargo, North Dakota, building contracts to Adamsen Construction Company and central office equipment contract was negotiated with Stromberg Carlson. The total bid price of the "B" section came to about \$705,000.

The following telephone properties were purchased in the latter part of 1957: East Dewey Telephone Company, Kinloss West Dewey Telephone Company, Fairdale Kinloss Telephone Company, Kinloss Silvesta Telephone Company, all of Fairdale, North Dakota, the Farmers Mutual Telephone Company, Park River, North Dakota; and the Robbin Rural Telephone Company, Robbin, Minnesota, which was and still is being switched out of the Drayton, North Dakota central dial office.

Zontilli Construction Company, Ironton, Minnesota, was the successful bidder for the outside plant construction of Drayton, Bowesmont, Fairdale and Park River. Construction began in June of 1958. Adamsen Construction Company was the low bidder on new CDO buildings for these exchanges and again an equipment contract was negotiated with Stromberg Carlson.

Construction proceeded at a very rapid pace in 1958 and everything seemed to be normal and falling into place until November 17, when, what is referred to as "Black Monday," crippled Polar by a devastating sleet storm. High winds and snow compounded the problem of restoration of telephone service. Nearly all of the exchanges which Polar was operating at this time, suffered damage. Even new lines, which had not been released to Polar by Zontilli Construction Company, were damaged quite severely. Thirty-two men worked from 6:00 a.m.

to 9:00 p.m. fighting the elements to restore service. Crawler tractors with dozers were used to open up roads and fields to clear a path for pole haulers, for the crews setting poles, stringing, sagging and tying wire. Some of the broken lines had an accumulation of up to 4 pounds of ice per foot. No wonder poles and cross arms broke like toothpicks. As soon as Nodak Rural Electric crews had finished restoring electric service to their customers, Manager Jim Coleman dispatched some of his men to assist Polar in their restoration effort. With a lot of hard work and outstanding cooperation by everyone, telephone service was totally restored by January 7, 1959.

It should be mentioned here that in December 1957, bids were called for the remodeling of the Silliman Implement building at Park River, which Polar had purchased to be their new and permanent headquarters office. Prior to this time, much time and effort had been spent by management and the board of directors in determining what action should be taken in providing an adequate and permanent headquarters office location. It was after much soul searching and plain and simple economics, the final decision was made to relocate the headquarters from Grafton to Park River. This action consolidated the administration and plant operation under one roof. The low bidder to perform the total remodeling job was Consolidated Construction Company of Langdon, North Dakota. The new headquarters building was ready for occupancy prior to the annual membership meeting held January 17, 1959. Open house was held in conjunction with the annual meeting, with a large number of members and visitors touring the new facility.

Now that the very busy and hectic year of 1958 was history, 1959 and 1960 saw the completion and cutover of the remaining exchanges to the all modern dial service. The following telephone properties were purchased by Polar in late 1958 and early 1959: Nekoma Farmers Mutual Telephone Company, Lawton Telephone Company, Brocket Farmers Telephone Company, North Medford Mutual Telephone Company served out of Lankin and the Lankin Telephone Company.

Christianson Construction Company of Little Falls, Minnesota, was the contractor for central office buildings at Hoople, Crystal, Nekoma, Brocket, Lankin and Neche. Stromberg Carlson provided the central office equipment and again Zontilli Construction Company was the successful bidder for the outside plant, with the exception of Neche. The rehabilitation of the outside plant of the Neche exchange was done by Polar's own construction crew.

In March of 1960, mobile telephone service was made available to the public from the Park River exchange. A 300 foot tower was erected 4.5 miles west of Park River, which was later replaced by a tower west of Lankin, to give better coverage. It took only a short while for this service offering to "Catch On" and once it did, it grew by leaps and bounds. It was not long before additional channels were added and another system was installed at Cavalier. At the present time, there are four channels in the Park River system and two at Cavalier. In 1969, Polar converted the existing mobile telephone system to the integrated mobile telephone system (IMTS). This provided full duplex operation, that is you can hear both sides of the conversation without a press-to-talk on a standard call. Other features made it a tremendous improvement over the old system.

As early as 1960, Polar began to give serious consideration to buried telephone plant. After studies and past experiences with sleet storms, the board of directors authorized this type of construction only on an experimental basis. By using a converted single shank subsoiler, pulled by the boom truck or a tractor, Polar began its venture in buried cable and wire. By

1961, twenty miles of direct buried cable was in service and all indications pointed to complete satisfaction with this type of outside plant.

Steady growth in both customer and telephone usage was evident, as various reports indicate. The financial condition of Polar was sound, which indicated that decisions being made by both management and the board of directors were correct.

A training program, both in a technical field and safety, for all employees was established. This was accomplished through organized classroom sessions, on-the-job training and special schools and seminars sponsored by manufacturers.

In 1962, Polar learned that Wing VI of the Minuteman Missile System was to be constructed throughout a portion of eastern North Dakota, and that five launch control facilities (LCF's) would be located in Polar's service area. It was at this time that buried cable plant came into being in a big way. The telephone companies submitted a proposal to the U.S. Air Force to provide service at all LCF's by way of buried cable. The proposal was so attractive that the Air Force approved this type of construction. This was attractive to the telephone companies as well, in that it replaced many miles of open wire with stormproofed facilities to serve our customers. Many of these routes were the heavier open wire leads, therefore, the replacement of such facilities minimized the damage to outside plant by wind and sleet. Construction of buried outside plant began in earnest in 1963, with more than eighty miles of cable laid to serve Minuteman and customers along the routes.

Another milestone reached in 1962 was that a telephone customer could call any place in the United States for \$1.00 or less for the first three minutes. With the advent of lower long distance rates, and new dial systems, traffic over the open wire, cable and switching equipment began to mushroom and studies were beginning to take form to alleviate this condition. Polar subscribers had grown from about 3000 in 1955 to over 6000 in December of 1964. This surpassed the ten year projection in the area coverage design. As a result, immediate action was taken to develop a fundamental plan for the purpose of projecting for the future what the ultimate goal should be and how this could be accomplished with the least amount of added cost to the customer. By June of 1966, engineering plans for twelve exchanges providing for all one-party service, direct distance dialing (DDD), all stormproofed facilities, expanded extended area service (EAS) and automatic number identification (ANI) had been submitted to R.E.A. for their approval.

The remaining ten exchanges were in the design stage. The improved service package, once approved by R.E.A. and loan funds released, would require approximately ten years to complete. Announcement of the approval of Polar's first R.E.A. loan for upgrading to all one-party service, buried cable, etc., came in November 1966. This first loan (H) was for the amount of \$992,000. Interest on the part of the Polar subscribers for the improved service package was very high. One criteria which each telephone exchange had to meet was that at least 75 percent of those subscribers in that exchange had to sign a petition favoring the "Polar Upgrading Package." In all instances, this figure was exceeded. Construction began on the outside plant in 1967 and by the end of 1973 all exchanges, including the exchange of Pisek, acquired in 1969 and Aneta-West Northwood acquired in 1970, were completed and cut over to one-party service. What was originally planned to be at least a ten year upgrading program was completed in six years. It should be noted that this tremendous effort was accomplished under very difficult times. The Vietnam War was in full bloom, making equipment and material in short supply, and obtaining a loan from R.E.A. was

very difficult in that Congress was very hesitant in appropriating money for the overall R.E.A. program. Through the persistent effort on the part of the board of directors, Manager Walters and staff, construction money became available at the proper time to carry on with the projects.

Now that Polar had completed the planned upgrading program, many people may have felt that no further problems could possibly be encountered, no new services would be required and that all that was necessary now was to sit back and let the telephone system operate. This was not, and never will be, a factual statement. From the standpoint of problems, one of the first things that had to be dealt with was controlling man in such a way that he would not undo all the work that had been completed to date. Polar, like all other utilities that have buried facilities, found that man was either digging, boring or cutting these buried facilities. This is a never ending problem which will remain with all buried utilities as long as they exist. Another problem that raised its ugly head was wet cable. For some reason or other, it was felt by industry as a whole, that by having cable covered with polyethylene or something similar, that no moisture could penetrate this jacket. It was soon learned that this material was porous and did in fact breathe. Consequently, pockets of moisture was found at various locations along the cable route. Pressurization was experimented with but to no great success. It was at this point in time that manufacturers of cable, along with R.E.A. engineers, came up with a plan to manufacture cable filled with a jelly like substance. To date, this appears to work satisfactorily.

Polar's customers, like all other telephone customers, became very dependent upon good communications systems. Telephone service was no longer a luxury, but a necessity. The demand for tone dial, data service and equipment, answering devices, monitoring equipment, key systems, to mention a few, began to mushroom about 1970. Calling habits of the customers changed, necessitating constant upgrading of the switching equipment and toll facilities.

With the tremendous growth of telephone service and a change in Polar's entire operation, more office space became a necessity. On August 28, 1969, bids were opened for the construction of a bi-level building joined to the west side of the original office. The successful bidder was Dahl Construction Company of Park River. This was completed and moved into in September of 1970. This new office addition was greatly appreciated by all employees. However, with the A.B.M. installation a reality, immediate steps were taken by the board of directors and management to alleviate the overcrowded conditions in the office and the vehicle maintenance, repair and storage area. Polar had already acquired the old Meagher Implement building and grounds along with the land which the Walsh County shed was located. Polar now owned property one-half block wide and one block long. The second addition to the headquarters building was underway by the latter part of March 1973, with full occupancy by August of 1974. The contractor for this addition was Peterson Construction Company of Grand Forks, North Dakota. The total bid for the building only was over one-half million dollars. With this addition, approximately 43,000 square feet was now available for administrative, maintenance and repair of all vehicle and machines, and for storage.

In 1967, Polar learned that an Anti Ballistic Missile System (Army's Sentinal) was to be constructed partially within Polar's service area. In 1970, construction began on this most sophisticated weapon system, now known as Safeguard ABM, that the United States had ever installed. Its purpose was to intercept and destroy incoming ICBM, (Intercontinental Ballistic

Missiles). With such a weapon system, a very sophisticated and "Latest In The State Of The Art" type communication system had to be installed. Polar became the prime contractor, both from an engineering and supplier of service standpoint. As mentioned earlier, two loans from R.E.A., through the Rural Telephone Bank amounting to about 5.3 million dollars, was made. Along with this, loans from local banks totalling approximately three million dollars, were necessary. The total investment in the communication system, including government aid to construction, amounted to approximately ten million dollars. By the end of 1975, the total telephone plant investment for the entire company amounted to nearly twenty-one million dollars.

The ABM had been in a tactical configuration for about one month during the last quarter of 1975, when Congress made a decision to discontinue its mission and totally dismantle the Missile Site Radar (MSR) and the Remote Sprint Launch (RSL) sites of which there were four. The Perimeter Acquisition Radar (PAR) was left intact and was given a new mission.

At the peak of the ABM operation, the total number of employees on the Polar payroll was 131, with a monthly payroll in excess of \$100,000. What was known as the Safeguard ABM, is now history.

As stated earlier, John G. Walters retired as General Manager in December 1973. Winten A. Gunderson was named General Manager and continues to serve in that position.

We observed the 100th birthday of Telephony in 1976, along with the Nation's bicentennial. With its humble beginning, Polar observed its 30th year of operation in 1982. Much has been accomplished and many changes taken place, both in telephone service and personnel. The field of communication is still in its infancy and what is in store for the customer and the industry itself must be left to history.

Tribute must be paid to those organizations and individuals who played such an important part in the organization and development of Polar, to what it is today. To mention a few, REA and its fine and capable staff of people both in the field and in Washington, D.C., Communication Consultants with Vern Armfield as its President and "Guiding Light." This man whose compassion and concern to provide the best communication system possible for rural America and who coordinated this effort with the Bell system and industry as a whole, certainly has a special place in Polar's history. To James Coleman, former Manager of Nodak Rural Electric and James "Bud" Moe, who conducted meetings throughout eastern North Dakota explaining to the various communities what the R.E.A. telephone loan program was all about. This was during the period after the telephone amendment to the R.E.A. Act was approved in 1949 until John Walters became coordinator in 1954. To the original board of directors of Polar Telephone Corporation and to W.T. (Bill) DePuy, who served as Polar's attorney since its beginning and whose influence and dedication had a profound effect not only in establishing Polar as an operation telephone cooperative, but also on rural electricity and telephony within the State of North Dakota. To I.M. Hanson (deceased) and Bill Krueger for their trips to Washington, D.C. to give testimony before the Agricultural Appropriations Committee in April of 1953. Their testimony, along with others, played an important part in convincing Congress to appropriate more money to provide telephone service for rural America. To Senator Milton R. Young for his deep concern to help in modernizing the communications system, which would aid farmers and small town businessmen to carry on with their business and to compete with other businesses in the metropolitan area.

The present Board of Directors of Polar Communication are: Keith Schluchter, Cavalier (President); Eugene Loftsgard, Park River (Vice President); Roy Bigwood, St. Thomas (Secretary-Treasurer); James Halstenson, Niagara (Assistant Secretary-Treasurer); Lloyd Gire (Original Board Member); Ronald Loraas, Fairdale; Morris Melander, Hunter; Kenneth Moen, Inkster; and Dale Swartz, Lankin. Attorney W.T. DePuy passed away in October 1982, and Attorney W.R. Goulet, Jr., has been named the company attorney.

A name change to Polar Communications Mutual Aid Corporation was made in 1980. This was necessary because Polar no longer provides only telephone service. It also provides data and alarm systems, mobile telephones and C.A.T.V. (Community Antenna Television). Other broadband services will be provided as the state of the art dictates.

PORTER AUTO REPAIR

In 1963 Kenneth and Helen Porter purchased 15 acres of land located three miles west of Park River. They built a 40x60 quonset and the business was operated as L & P Auto, owned and operated by Jerry Lund and Kenneth (Butch) Porter. November 12, 1965 the partnership was dissolved. Kenneth bought out Lund and the business was renamed Porter Auto Repair and Salvage. Later the Porter Transmission was added, owned by Kenneth and Glen Porter, managed by Glen. In July 1979 a 100x60 body shop was built. It is managed by Terry Lund.

In addition to body and repair work, Kenneth also sells new steel, citizens band radios, archery supplies and bait (the shop is located near Homme Dam). Their two sons, Robert and Donald, also help him with the business. Their daughter, Nancy, is a student at Valley City State College.

POTATO BUSINESS IN PARK RIVER



Old Potato warehouse 1923-1939

The potato business is an old business starting about 1910. The first underground pit in this area was built by a Mr. Wampler in 1912. This was located on a farm 7 miles northeast of Park River, later owned by Hans Larson and now owned by Olaf Johnson.

To begin with the work was all done by hand. Cutting and picking was done by hand labor. Many women and young people picked and put in burlap bags, 60 to 70 pounds to a bag, loaded on wagons and to pits. The average wage was 3 cents a bushel for picking and 30 to 40 cents an hour for labor. All cultivating was done by horse-power.

On October 19, 1916, a potato warehouse was talked of for Park River, with November 14, 1916 set for a meeting. A warehouse



"Spud Pickers" 1940

was assured. A meeting of farmers to decide on building a potato warehouse was held in Park River in 1918. In Sept. of 1918, Joe Kowalski and Christopher started buying potatoes. In May of 1919, bids were let for the Park River Co-op Potato Co. Bldg. Ed Herwick got the bid for \$6,673.00. In 1922 this was sold to R.L. Douglas of Grand Forks. Douglas was the first large grower in this area, for several years. He sold his warehouse to Clement Kenney, Alex and Duncan Meagher in 1946. They expanded it later with a group of growers and formed the Park River Potato Company. They started a wash plant in 1950, which is still in business. Park River Potato Company started the first flake plant, Polar Potato Products, in 1959. They had a good product, but distribution was a problem.

M.O. Johnson began raising potatoes in 1920. Later, in the 1930's, as a farmer and implement dealer, he began buying and selling potatoes. In 1935 he built his warehouse. Much storage space has been added since. The wash plant was added in 1952, which is still in operation by Johnson Farming Association, operated by Rossford Johnson and his son Russell.

Other early large growers were Lars, Hans, Olaf and Enoch Larson. They each farmed separately, stored and sold potatoes individually. Enoch's sons, Gene and Neil, are operating a washplant and a trucking business, along with their farming interests.

H.D. Long, former county agent and plant breeder, built his warehouse in 1946. At that time, Early Ohio's, Triumph and Cobbler were the main varieties. He developed the Dakota Chief and Pontiac's. The Pontiac is still a popular variety with the growers here. He also was one of the first to introduce dust treatment for the treating of seed potatoes and to manufacture dust for sale.

The Long Warehouse is now owned by Toews Seed Company. They raise and store certified seed.

Burbidge Seed Co. Inc started in 1939. He specializes in certified potatoes and in small grain. In 1958, he built a 60,000 bushel, 50 x 157, certified seed house located just south of H.D. Long and Son's potato house. He has sold potatoes in 38 states.

Meberg and Flaten warehouse was built in 1949 and a wash plant was installed in 1950. It is now operated by Meberg Potato Co.

Another giant warehouse to strengthen Park River's reputation as one of the top potato storage and shipping centers in the country was planned in 1958. The proposed 180,000 bushel storage plant was to be erected by a group of local people and was to be known as United Potato Grower's. The 80' x 250' structure-a steel covered building-was to be located just north of an almost identical warehouse erected 5 years ago by the Park River Potato Growers, Inc. Both structures are located just south of the Park River Potato Company's Potato Wash Plant.

In 1959, a Potato Flake Plant was to be built in Park River. Bids were let on the huge 80' x 200' potato flake plant that was to be located just south of the Great Northern Railway Company spur, which runs past Long's Enterprises, the stockyard chutes and Arden Burbidge's new seed house. It was to be operated as Polar Potato Products, Inc.

Before all these warehouses were built, there were many underground pits for winter storage. These were located on Summit Avenue. Since the railroad warehouses have been built, these early day storage pits have disappeared. Summit Avenue today has beautiful residential homes and adds to the beauty of Park River.

Many changes in marketing potatoes have taken place, from loading potatoes in bulk on track or graded by farmers in 120 pound bags, which were loaded on railway cars. There were several grading sheds located along the railroad tracks, but these were used in the fall until the cold weather. The potatoes were sold to brokers from Moorhead, Kansas City, Chicago and others.

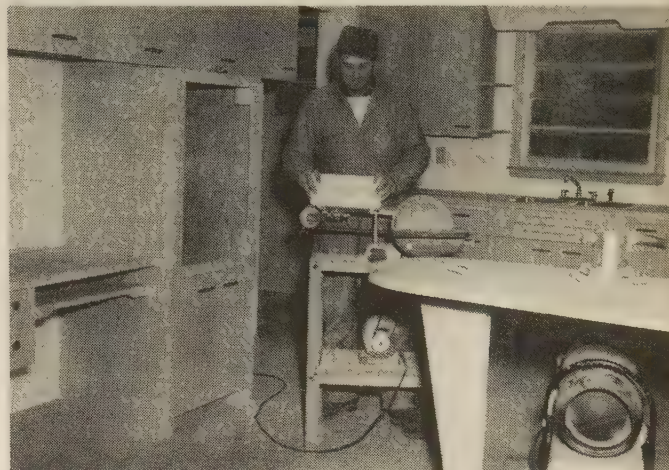
The change from horse power to tractors was the introduction of row-crop tractors, in 1928 to 1930. With that came bigger and better machinery for row-crop farming. The first potato harvester was in 1950, which was a Knofsinger and owned by Clement Kenney and Alex Meagher.

Along with the four washplants and two certified seed-houses, there are several farmers who have their own warehouses specially built for storing potatoes for processing. These are

temperature controlled, which is necessary to have a good quality potato for chipping.

Potato business has had its ups and downs, but overall, it has been good for the grower, laborer, business, and the economy of Park River.

RUSTAN CONSTRUCTION



George Rustan at work in the building of houses.



Construction of moveable houses in Kensington Addition - 1959. George Rustan, contractor, at the far right.

Buy a house "Super Market Style." It all started in 1948 as a one man operation in Union, North Dakota, and soon the business expanded and a number of men were employed. George Rustan built a welding shop the size and shape of a house which he intended to sell when convenient. Then one Sunday morning lightning struck a farmer's house in the area and it burned to the ground. The farmer needed a house immediately so the building was sold, moved and finished into a comfortable home. That was the beginning of the movable houses and Rustan Construction.

Informed of a need of carpenters in the Park River area, the George Rustan family moved from Union to Park River in 1958. They brought their house, built by Rustan Construction, with them and placed it on its foundation on a lot in a plowed field in Kensington Addition east of Park River.

The demand for movable houses at this time seemed to establish an "Industrial Revolution" with houses coming right off an assembly line. This allowed a savings to the buyer through efficiency of labor and the large quantity of purchases of materials. Large quantities of lumber were cut at one time which actually made for "part rooms" to draw upon when constructing

the houses. George did have one general basic plan, but, also did build according to any plan that a customer did request. Houses were moved to various locations in Northeastern North Dakota.

Eventually more building was done on permanent foundations in the area. A grocery store, funeral home, and curling rink in Park River, the curling rink in Grafton and the Trinity Lutheran Church in Edinburg were built, in addition to most of the homes in Kensington Addition, east of Park River, as well as the development of Park Ridge Estates, presently known as Kensington Avenue.

George died in 1974 and the business terminated that year.

ST. ANSGAR'S HOSPITAL

PR HOSPITAL INTRODUCTION

The earliest record found concerning a hospital in Park River was found in a paper dated 30 March 1917.

"The need of a hospital building in Park River has been felt for some time, and to give impetus to the movement, a dramatic entertainment will be given on Friday, March 30, the proceeds of which will go into a fund for that purpose. The entertainment will be given in the opera house. A reading, "The Lost Word", by Van Dyke, will be given by Mrs. Marius Hansen. This will be followed by humoresque monologues and little stories. Mrs. Hansen will be assisted by local musical talent, which will make the evening's program of usual length. Mrs. Hansen is a graduate of the dramatic department of the Chicago musical college and followed the profession of dramatic reader. She was also assistant instructor at the institution and a pupil of J.H. Gilmore of New York City. The entertainment promises to be a real treat for all who attend. The price of admission will be 25 and 50 cents."

ST. ANSGAR'S HOSPITAL

The record of an organization wanting to build a hospital is dated Dec. 27, 1943. This was a joint meeting of the Park River Civic Club, the Junior Chamber of Commerce, the Paul Farup Post of the American Legion, and the Park River Volunteer Fire Department held at City Hall and chaired by John F. Dillon. This group selected a name, elected officers and was incorporated as the Park River Hospital Association on Jan. 8, 1944. Officers elected were Dr. F.E. Weed, President, Fred Hultstrand, Vice President, and M.S. Bateman, Secretary-Treasurer. The object of this organization was to raise funds to match any money raised at the rate of two dollars to one.



St. Ansgar's Hospital

Fund raising continued and architectural work was begun in 1948. The plans were subsequently approved and bids for the construction were opened on April 18, 1950. On July 8, 1950, the first shovelfuls of earth were turned to begin construction of the hospital, which was expected to take a little over two years. Even before construction began, the hospital auxiliary was formed. On May 20, 1950, about 50 women attended a meeting to form the new group and elected Mrs. Harold W. Dougherty as President.

On July 10, 1952, the hospital officially opened. Following a noon banquet in the City Hall, open house was held at the hospital in the afternoon and evening. More than 1000 persons toured the facility. St. Ansgar's Hospital then opened for business on July 16, 1952.

First Admission: Mrs. Andrew Catherwood.

First Baby Born: Linda May Wooldridge, daughter of Ruth and William Wooldridge of Park River.

Medical Staff: F.E. Weed, M.D. and H.R. Piltingsrud, M.D.

Administrator: Sister M. Bernadette.

In its first year of operation, St. Ansgar's Hospital admitted 588 patients, and helped 84 babies get a good start in the world.

Few changes in the medical staff have occurred in the 30 years of its operation. Dr. F.E. Weed and Dr. H.R. Piltingsrud were the first physicians to staff the hospital. Dr. Weed began his practice here in 1915 and Dr. Piltingsrud began his practice here in 1948. Dr. Weed died in 1954 and Dr. Piltingsrud practiced alone until Dr. J.K. O'Toole joined him in 1956. Dr. O'Toole left in 1962 to take a residency in psychiatry and Dr. J.G. Barrie came from Saskatchewan to practice medicine at the Park River Clinic. Dr. D. Paul D'Arcy joined Dr. Piltingsrud and Dr. Barrie in 1976. Dr. D'Arcy left Park River in 1978 to take further surgical training. Dr. Barrie retired from practice in 1979, leaving Dr. Piltingsrud alone again. Between April 1979 and December 1979 Park River had a series of physicians obtained through the Physicians Service. Included in this group were Dr. L.J. Hakala, Dr. George Rosenthal, Dr. Jennifer Cwodz, Dr. William Fennel, Dr. Ted Banach and Dr. Charles Cargille. In September 1979, Dr. D'Arcy returned to Park River to resume his medical practice. He was joined by Dr. I.I. Afonya, a surgeon, in August 1980. Dr. D'Arcy resigned his practice in Park River in Sept. 1980 to go to Chicago for a residency in surgery. Dr. V.K. Farrier, specialist in internal medicine, joined Dr. Afonya in March, 1981. Dr. Piltingsrud retired in February 1982.

Over the years the hospital has relied on many other physicians to provide services. Major surgical services were provided for many years by Dr. William Kieg, Dr. A.E. Culmer provided orthopedic services and Dr. Jon Eyland and Dr. A.M. Cooley were consulting pathologists. Dr. R. Douglas Doss continues to provide Radiological services.

Present medical and dental staff consists of Dr. I.I. Afonya and Dr. K.S. Sumra, Physicians and Surgeons, Dr. Gary Coleman, DDS., Dr. R.D. Doss, Radiologist and Dr. G.J. Dillenburg, Pathologist.

The first St. Ansgar's Hospital Appreciation Banquet was held on Sept. 7, 1964. Tickets were priced at \$20 per couple. The event also featured a hospital open house and a hospital ball. There was no main speaker but remarks were made by Mayor Percy Walstad and Rev. Father Edward Freuh, St. Ansgar's Chaplain.

Much has changed and many services have been added to St. Ansgar's since 1952. A major renovation was undertaken in 1975 to improve the appearance of the hospital and bring it up to current standards. In 1976, the Park River Volunteer Ambulance Service donated to the hospital the recently constructed training room and garage addition. Work is presently going forward to

complete some renovations begun in 1976 which had previously been halted for lack of funds. Work can now be continued because of the communities' generous support.

Since July 1980, St. Ansgar's Hospital has been associated with the Catholic Health Corporation, a non-profit, multi-institution organization, in order to strengthen the hospitals ability to meet the changing demands in today's health care environment. The CHC is presently an organization composed of 18 hospitals and 4 distinct long term care centers, with its stated purpose being "to enable the exploration and implementation of innovative and responsive health services which strengthen and expand the Catholic presence in meeting community and personal needs".

There are many groups and individuals responsible for the hospital's success in the last 30 years. Naming each would make a list which would include most people in the communities served. Deserving special thanks are the Sisters of Presentation for their determination, assistance and prayers, those individuals who have served on the hospital board, both governing and advisory, the various committees including long range planning and fund drive members, the ambulance service, the auxiliary and the staff, the area groups that have donated time and money or equipment also deserve mention and thanks for their support. St. Ansgar's Hospital staff has been careful to protect their reputation for good medical care and they provide quality health care.

SERVICE CLEANERS

The Service Cleaners of Park River was started in 1945 by Ralph Pederson, the present postmaster. He ended 37 years in the business when he sold the Cleaners to Pat and Stella DeLeon in October of 1973.

Pat and Stella both work at the Cleaners along with an employee, Mavis Mosolf, who has worked there for 27 years. They also have a route service to Edinburg twice a week.

The DeLeons are originally from Rapid City, S.D. and came to Park River from West Fargo. They are parents of three daughters: Patti (Mrs. Tom Clemetson) of San Simeon, CA; Sandi (Mrs. Lee Ward) of Grand Forks and Sheri, who is attending college at AVTI in East Grand Forks, MN.

SHIRLEY'S BEAUTY SHOP

Shirley's Beauty Shop has been located in Park River for more than 30 years.

Shirley Skeim, owner-manager is a native of Cummings, N.D., and graduated from the Security Beauty School in Grand Forks. She purchased her first beauty shop before leaving Beauty School from Evelyn Thompson at Grafton. She took over the shop with Evelyn Thompson as manager for a year, until she was eligible for a manager's license. In 1953 she moved to Park River and established Shirley's Beauty Shop. The first location was at 512½ Briggs Avenue. Later the shop was moved to a downstairs location to a building owned by Melvin Johnson and now occupied by the Senior Citizens Club, 510 Briggs Avenue.

In 1962 a split level house was built on the corner of Highway 17 and Regina Avenue South and a one operator shop was set up on the lower level. Within a short while the shop was completely remodeled into a four operator shop, and a wig room was added.

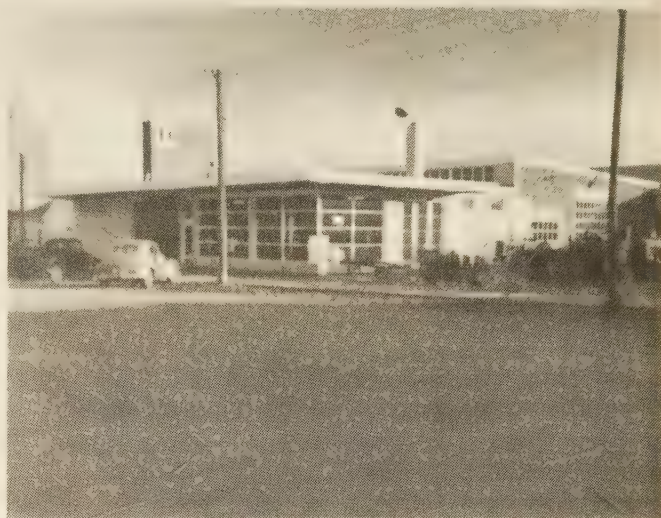
Shirley and her husband, Oliver, have two children, Bonny Lou who is married to Larry Dvorak and live in rural Park River, and Gary who is married to Raneen Denault. They now live in Rancho Cordova, CA. Oliver was employed at various places in Grafton, he was at Nygard's Body Shop, Manager of the VFW Club for

eight years and the Northeast Cement Company. Shirley has three other children by a previous marriage- Darrell L. Wegge who is married to Beverly Quist of Grafton and now lives in Grand Forks; Dennis Wegge, who is married to Eunice Ulin from Springfield, Mass., and Lydia Marie who is married to John Kelly, in partnership with Louie Papenfuss and operates KAP, Inc. They live in rural Park River.

HISTORY OF SILLIMAN IMPLEMENT CO.



Silliman Implement when it was purchased from Melvin O. Johnson in 1946. The structure is located at 110 4th Street East and was originally a part of Dave Aitkin's Livery Stable.



New building constructed at 110 4th Street East in 1947

The Silliman Implement Company became a reality when it opened for business on January 2, 1946. Fred Silliman and his father, Arthur A. Silliman of York, ND, purchased the International Harvester Implement business from Mr. M.O. Johnson of Park River on December 1, 1945.

The frame building and lots were located where the present Polar Telephone Company is located. By today's standards, the area seems small for an implement business, but it seemed adequate at the time.

Three experienced employees of Melvin Johnson continued to work under the new ownership which added to the continuity of the business. They were Stanley Olafson, a very able bookkeeper and parts man, and Oscar Severson and Oliver Skoje, skilled



Fred Silliman in his office on opening day - fall of 1948 - 110 4th Street East.



Louis Delvo and Harvey Tallackson with display of Potatoes at Mid Winter Fair in Silliman's Shop - 1948

mechanics. The working days were long--six days a week, with doors open late in the evenings much of the time.

Prior to the purchase of the business, plans were made to replace the wooden structure. After getting a building permit from the city, the new tile building was constructed in 1947, by the Ted Dahl Construction Co. of Park River. It forms the cornerstone of the present Polar Telephone complex. One of the unique features of the building at that time was the radiant heating system that was installed. Radiant heat involved laying coiled pipes in the sub floor through which hot water was forced to produce heat for the building.

Harvey Loftsgard, home from the Service, went to work as a mechanic under the on-the-job training program sponsored by the government for veterans. He worked at Silliman's eight years, from 1946 to 1954, before leaving to go into business on his own. Harold Gillespie helped on sales of the H's, the popular M's, the W-D9 tractors, International trucks, etc. until he moved to Minnesota. Amel Dahl, a steady worker, joined the staff in July of 1950, and helped in many capacities for almost 20 years. Walter Dougherty, an experienced salesman worked from 1953 until his death in July of 1956.

Because of World War II from 1941 to 1945, when companies, including IHC, were partly converted to the making of military



Site of Silliman Implement - Highway 17 West - 1958

equipment, farm equipment to dealers was rationed and not always available to meet the demand. Fred Silliman made many seasonal trips to Kansas and Oklahoma to buy good used combines to have brought here for customers.

New lines of IHC products were added--the refrigerators, freezers, McCormick cream separators, etc. Demonstrations of freezing foods were promoted by the company. It was a popular line for many years. The appliances always rated a booth during Fair week.

The Silliman Implement Co. was very supportive of the Mid-winter Fair, later call the Walsh County Fair and Potato Show. Every year machines were displayed. At times business would be suspended so the Future Farmers of America and the 4-H students could hold their Agronomy Clinic in the building. One year, the repair shop was used to house the 4-H livestock, while a large tent adjoining the building, complete with bleachers, was the judging area. This occurred during a very cold Mid-February.

After hearing that the Fairdale Supply of Fairdale, ND was for sale, Sillimans saw an opportunity to expand its sales territory. In 1951, the purchase of the Hardware store and International Harvester business was finalized with Selmer Amundrud.

Fred's father and business partner, Arthur Silliman, died on January 6, 1953.

In 1954, the Oldsmobile franchise was obtained. To help sell this new line necessitated finding another car salesman. By coincidence, the job was offered to a young man from Fairdale--Allen Eide. With much enthusiasm and a liking for the work, he assisted Fred and the other employees in making trips to Minneapolis by plane or train to drive up the new cars the same day; and also to keep used cars in good supply. Leaving in 1957 for Grand Forks, the experience at Sillimans proved to be the beginning of a most successful career for Allen Eide as an automobile salesman and dealer.

Because of ill health, Stanley Olafson discontinued work toward the end of 1954 after eight years of service. His death followed on Feb. 2, 1955. This office job was filled by Carole Eide for the next 2 years.

During the mid 50's, there arose the need for more space for machines and cars. First a buyer had to be found for the uptown location. This task was finalized with the sale of the land and buildings to the Polar Telephone Co. in 1957. Land was then purchased along Highway 17 on the western edge of Park River. A new building was built by Dennis Olson, a local contractor, in

1957-1958. Percy Walstad had joined the sales force in June of 1957 and helped move the business to the new location. He continued work there until 1966 when he started farming.

The Buick franchise was obtained in 1961. Farmhand and Melroe lines were added to the inventory.

During the following years, Claude Simmons was hired in early 1961 as a mechanic and later as a parts man to replace Oscar Severson who retired in Dec. 1966 after 20 years. Gilman Clemens, mechanic, had begun work in March 1966. Tom Horgan and Harold Dougherty helped as bookkeepers during this interval. John Kelly joined the business in 1966. There were many other employees, two of whom were Ronnie Jardine and Vernon Lindberg.

Members of the family who got involved were a daughter, Carol, who was bookkeeper and worked in the parts department for two summers during her college years; C.P. (Johnny) Silliman, a brother; and Elva Silliman who was called upon to help, temporarily, with the books. She continued for four years until the business was sold.

Fred considered it a compliment to have customers walk into his place of business. He enjoyed sales work and made many contacts with customers on their farm or up-town. His terms were flexible. To accomodate customers, many machines were sold in exchange for "potato contracts"; or perhaps a house, some livestock, or used furniture was taken in on trade. With his optimistic nature and lots of hard work, Fred, with the help of his co-workers, was able to get through the ups and downs of an Implement's business. In appreciation, IHC and the Buick and Olds companies granted many awards and plaques for sales and service. Several interesting and enjoyable trips were won in sales promotion campaigns among area dealers. Fred never regretted coming and being a part of Park River.

Fred Silliman's death occurred on October 8th, 1968. On April 1, 1969, ownership was transferred by the sale of the business to John Kelly and Louis Papenfuss under the name of KAP, Inc. The Silliman Implement Company became part of the history of Park River.

JERRY SMAZIK



Jerry's Service Station - later Frank Soukup's Station.
105 4th Street West

Jerry Smazik, son of the late Joseph Smazik and Mary Malek Smazik, was born in Pisek, ND, May 13, 1906. He lived there until he was 6 years old when his folks moved to Lankin, ND.

The family moved to Park River in 1919. Jerry was around 13 years old at the time and not too keen on school. He was working with his father doing masonry work, brick laying and plastering. During the winter months Jerry would go to other places for work



Jerry Smazik's Service Station located on Highway 17 East. Sold to Stanley Shaw in 1966.



Jerry Smazik's Drive - In operated until it was sold in 1950. Highway 17 East

and do what ever was available to help out his family financially, as he was the oldest.

In 1929 he was working for General Motors in Flint, Michigan.

Jerry married Mildred Soukup in Flint, Mich. where they lived until 1938. Jerry decided to move back to Park River and go into business for himself. He opened a service station which he and his father built. It is located one-half block west of Main Street and is the only stone building in Park River.

He operated the gas station until he went into the service in World War II in 1943 and leased his station to Frank Soukup who is the present owner.

Jerry resumed operating the station after his discharge from Service. In 1961 he sold it to Frank Soukup.

Jerry started another gas station, drive-in and trailer park on Highway 17 East. The drive-in in 1950 was later sold to Delia Hanson and her late husband who moved the business west on Highway 17 and it was known as the West Side Drive-In.

The gas station was sold to Stanley Shaw in 1966 who sold it to Paul Torgerson, the present owner.

Jerry semi-retired and operated the Mobil Home Park until his death on Sept. 6, 1981.

MILDRED SMAZIK

Mildred Smazik, daughter of Frank Soukup and Agnes Shirek Soukup, was born May 28, 1915. There were three brothers: Celestine, Rudolph and Frank; one sister, Mrs. Ted (Agnes) Jensen; three nephews, Robert Haselmo of Lompoc, California; Donald and Dale Jensen of Park River.

Frank and Mildred are the only surviving members of the Frank Soukup, Sr. family. Mildred and Jerry had no children.

In 1957 two nephews of Jerry's, Gerald, 9, and Thomas Langley, 6, sons of Paul and Leona Smazik Langley, came to

Park River, to make their home with Mildred and Jerry as they lost their parents 14 months apart of cancer.

After Gerald graduated from high school, he served in the Vietnam War. He returned to Davison, Michigan, his home place, to visit his relatives and was employed by Genova Products. He married Lorie Osborn, of Davison. They are parents of three children, Kelli, 14; Terri, 11; and Jerud, 6. In 1979 Gerald and family were transferred to Fort Wayne, Indiana, their present address.

Thomas, after completing high school, was employed by Bateman Motors, and later known as Erickson Ford. He is at present living in Park River.

Mildred is at present operating Jerry's Mobile Home Park, Highway 17 East, Park River.

STATE FARM INSURANCE

The first State Farm Insurance Agency in Park River was established by J. Albert Ferguson in the latter 1930s. His office was located in his home. Mr. Ferguson remained in Park River until 1941, when he was promoted to District Manager and moved to Grand Forks, N.D.

In 1942, local barber Tim Vavrosky took over the insurance agency. The first few years he kept his files in an apple box in the back of his barbershop, which was located in the corner building at the corner of Briggs Avenue and 5th Street. His wife, Minnie, helped out with his insurance business for those first years. He rented the other half of his building to Mrs. Amanda Ingulsrud, who operated a cafe there from 1948 until December of 1965. At this time Tim moved his insurance and real estate business into that part of the building, while maintaining his barbershop in the northern half of the building.

A highlight of Tim's career was when he qualified to attend the national convention in Chicago, which was quite a trip back in the 40s.

Tim's son, Tim Vavrosky, Jr., joined his father in the insurance business in 1953 and remained associated with him until 1967, when he moved to Fargo, N.D. and became an independent insurance agent.

In 1956, Tim was the Democratic candidate for North Dakota State Insurance Commissioner. He lost the race to Wally Wolsky.

Tim retired from his insurance business May 1, 1978. He died September 26, 1979.

The new State Farm Agent appointed to take over Tim's agency was Jim Worley, who began his duties May 1, 1978. Jim was the administrator of the Good Samaritan Center for two years. The new State Farm office was moved across the street, and down half a block, across from Service Cleaners. The office remains at that location.

BUSINESS PLACES OF LLOYD AND BYRDIE STAVEN

In August 1942 Lloyd and Byrdie bought a business place from Ralph Christenson in which he served beer and lunches. It was located in an old frame building where Stephen L. Currie's Law Office now stands, 313 Briggs Avenue South. The building had housed a cream station at one time, then years later Joe Fail bought it and remodeled the structure to be used for a beer parlor and serving meals. They had it for a few years and then sold it to Ralph Christenson. When Christenson was ready to retire we bought the building. We did some remodeling and then served beer and lunches.

July 1946 was the year we bought the Clinic building from Milton Code, 424 Briggs Avenue South. Milton and his wife lived



Fruit and Vegetable Dept. of the Staven Red Owl Agency. Byrdie in the back.



Meat Dept. in the Staven Red Owl Agency store. Bill Ogden and Bud Corbit.



Staven's Coast to Coast

in Lisbon. This building was built about 1902 by Edward Code, Milton's father. Milton inherited the building. When we bought it there was a Gamble Store occupying the premises, owned and operated by Mr. and Mrs. Olson. When they bought the building now owned by Dr. Infeld, 406 Briggs Avenue South, they moved their store to that site. We did some remodeling in this building and moved all our fixtures and operated a beer tavern. At one time the telephone office was upstairs in a couple of rooms and there was a shoe shop in the back room.

We bought the building now occupied by The Club, 412 Briggs Avenue South, in 1947. We decided to take over the Red Owl Agency, so in 1949 we closed the tavern we operated at 424 Briggs



The Club - owned and operated by Lloyd and Byrdie Staven



Staven Buildings Clinic Bldg. 424 Briggs 1958

Avenue South, remodeled the interior, installed all new fixtures and freezers, and had Staven's Red Owl Agency. Bill Ogden was the manager, Bud Corbit was the meat man, Helen Connor, Willard Stenerson and Byrdie worked in the store. In 1952 Lorenz Mahrer bought that business from us and after a few years he moved to a larger building. When the building was vacated we remodeled it for a doctors clinic and in September, 1957, the doctors moved in: Dr. H.R. Piltingsrud and Dr. O'Toole. When Dr. O'Toole left, Dr. G. Barrie joined Dr. Piltingsrud and continued until he retired. A few years later Dr. Piltingsrud also retired. Dr. Baldwin, a dentist, had his dental practice in a part of the space. It was called the Park River Clinic.

We had bought The Club bar from Walter Dougherty who owned and operated the business in June, 1947, and took over the business in July. The building was bought from Mrs. Annie Wellek. We remodeled the interior, had a new front put on the building, and operated the business for 16 years. In July, 1963, Clair and Selma Clemetson took over the business. Clair died in September 1971 and Selma has operated the business since. At one time there was a drug store in this building owned and operated by John Hamre.

We bought the Taintor building which the Masonic Lodge owned in April, 1962. This building, 422 Briggs Avenue South, was next to the Code building. The postoffice was occupying the building at that time. When the postoffice moved to their new building we remodeled the interior, and with all new fixtures we had a Coast to Coast store. Jim Rome managed it for a year, then we took over and managed it for a while. In September, 1964



A.S.C. Building



Grand Opening of the A.S.C. Building Feb. 1, 1961

Arthur and Irene Rey from Lisbon bought the business from us. He operated the store for a few years and then sold to Duane and Shirley Halvorson who are the present owners. At one time the building housed a meat market owned and operated by Mr. Taintor and then Ole Neste owned and operated a meat market there.

In October, 1971 we bought the Fashion Shop building (Huseth Building) from John and Mathilda Bures. The building, 420 Briggs Avenue South, was next door to the Coast to Coast store so we opened it and remodeled so the Coast to Coast had more space. We had a new front put on the buildings. The Fashion Shop had been in business for many years. Some of the ladies who owned and operated the store were Mrs. Frank Lord, Mabel McNally, Bessie Pearse, Naomi Nickolay, Helen Neste, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Funk and Eleanor Fjeld.

When the O.P. Olson Hardware Store burned in 1969 there was nothing left but the walls. On July 29, 1970 we bought the structure from Inez Olson. We built a building which is now the Park River Dental Clinic. Dr. R.W. Baldwin moved in as soon as the building was completed. Dr. Gary Coleman then took over the business. Dr. Jeffery Dieter was with him for a few years before he accepted a position as dentist at the Grafton State School.

On June 20, 1960 we bought the Leonard house which was on the corner of Briggs Avenue South and Sixth Street West from Ralph and Chrystal Leonard. We had the house moved off and we built a brick, fireproof 50x146' structure which houses the Government offices.

Lloyd Staven died on October 15, 1983. Byrdie is now the owner of the buildings.

T.T. THOMPSON BLOCK



T.T. Thompson - General Merchandise. Thompson's son Seymour, is standing behind the counter - about 1910. 419 Briggs Avenue South



T.T. Thompson Building - Interior gutted by fire May 7, 1940. Reopened for business on July 1, 1940.

T.T. Thompson purchased the building and general merchandise business from John Aamoth in April, 1893. Thompson was in business at that location in February, 1901 at the time of the big fire. Rebuilding, he continued a general store. He sold out to S.K. Bolstad sometime before May, 1906 at which time Jenson and Son (John and Lars) moved their grocery line from 323 Briggs Avenue South to the Thompson Block. They added dry goods and clothing. It was then Thompson, Jenson and Son. January, 1909 Jenson and son moved out and the store again became T.T. Thompson's. In February, 1912 T.T. Thompson sold his business to Joe and John Kowalski. On July 7, 1916 Bernard Everson purchased one half interest in the Kowalski Store which became Kowalski and Everson. On April 18, 1918 Charles H. Fee purchased Joe Kowalski's half interest in Kowalski and Everson - it will be known as Fee and Everson.

October 25, 1918- Fee and Everson moved from the Thompson Block to the site next door, 417 Briggs Avenue. On January 3, 1919



Interior of L.H. Harris Recreation - July, 1940. 419 Briggs Avenue South



Interior of L.H. Harris Recreation 419 Briggs Avenue South, July, 1940. George McLaughlin, Robert F. Gillespie, G.C. (Cy) McLaughlin and owner, L.H. Harris.

the Thompson Block was rented out to be used as a gym. It was used as the basketball court. In May, 1919 James M. Laybourne leased the building. He moved his pool and billiard room from the Dougherty Building. November, 1920 James Laybourne sold his half interest in the billiard parlor to John Dobmeier. In July, 1923 Dobmeier sold his interest back to Laybourne. January 6, 1927 Cass Gates and son Clifford purchased the Laybourne poolroom from the Laybourne Estate. In the fall of 1928 the Gates pool room moved from the Thompson Block to one door north. On March 27, 1929, Lloyd H. Harris opened the L.H. Harris Recreation in the Thompson Building. On May 8, 1940 fire destroyed the interior of the building. It was rebuilt and opened on July 1, 1940. On August 4, 1941 Lloyd H. Harris died. The business was continued by his wife, Alma G., with G.C. (Cy) McLaughlin as manager. Their son, Harold, took over the business when he returned from the service in November, 1945. Harold continued operating the L.H. Harris Recreation until the building was leased to Glen Cudmore on October 1, 1968 so Glen could enlarge his Fairway store which he was operating in the adjoining building to the south.

September 1, 1971, Duane Guenther bought out Glen Cudmore and changed the grocery store to a Jack and Jill Store. On October 1, 1976 Roger Hall bought out Guenther. June 1, 1979 Duane Quam bought out Roger Hall, the store was then changed to the L.B. Hartz Store. On December 1, 1981, Larry

Swenson bought out Duane Quam and is presently operating Larry's Food Center, a L.B. Hartz store.

TOLLEFSON FUNERAL HOME



Tollefson Funeral Home

The Tollefson Funeral Home of Park River, N.D. was constructed in 1973, located on the western edge of the city on the south side of Highway 17. The 40x88 ft. mortuary was constructed in colonial fashion with a large chapel area which seats about 150 people. Warren J. Tollefson, now deceased, built the mortuary to better serve people in the Park River and surrounding communities. It is operated in conjunction with the Tollefson Funeral Homes of Grafton and Edinburg, N.D., and is owned and operated by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Nermyr. The new facility was opened to the public in June of 1973.

VARIETY STORE

Park River's Main Street has had a variety store for 73 years. Most of these years the business was located in the Walstrom Building at 401 Briggs Avenue South.

Mr. and Mrs. Nels Haugen operated the store for 27 years. The first location of the store was Lot 13, Block 15 (the east side of the street). After 16 years the business was moved to the Walstrom Building where it remained until 1982, 401 Briggs Ave. South.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Argetsinger and Miss Katherine Sundell purchased the business from the Haugens in 1938. They moved here from Cass Lake, Minnesota where they had operated a variety store.

Until 1947 the store had occupied only the north half of the building. At this time the store was remodeled and enlarged, the other half of the building was acquired, thus making an attractive improvement. In 1949 the Argetsingers purchased the interest held by Katherine Sundell. She decided to retire after her marriage to John Roholt of Hoople, N.D.

Early in the 1950's the Argetsingers became affiliated with the Ben Franklin Stores and operated under that name until they retired in June, 1971. The business was sold to Mr. and Mrs. Glen Cudmore of Park River. The Cudmores, in turn, sold to Wayne Jensen of Cavalier, N.D. The store is now known as Wayne's Variety and is located in the Tom Johnson Building at 318 Briggs Avenue South (the east side of the street).

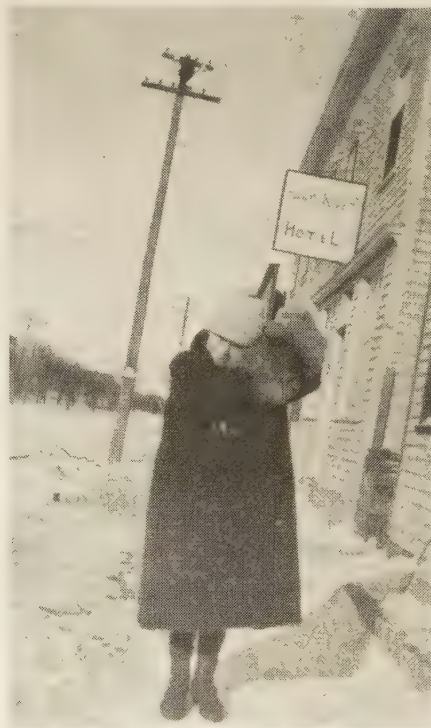
LORENE WHITESIDES

F. Lorene Whitesides began her practice of law in Park River in December of 1942, at the request of the late Harold King. Mr. King had been appointed an attorney for the Office of Price Administration in Fargo, N.D. for the duration of World War II. She conducted the law practice under the name of King and Whitesides. After the end of World War II, Mr. King did not return to his law practice in Park River. On January 1, 1947 Miss Whitesides began her separate practice of law. She later married James A. Larson and her law practice is now known as Lorene Whitesides Larson, attorney at law.

Mrs. Larson has Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Law and Doctor of Jurisprudence degrees, all from the University of North Dakota at Grand Forks. She has conducted a General Law Practice plus preparing income tax returns and other business reports. She plans to retire within the next few years.

Mrs. Larson has two sons, William J. Larson, who has a degree in Mechanical Engineering, from the University of North Dakota, and Thomas D. Larson, who has a degree from the University of North Dakota in Business Administration and Marketing. Both are in business in Park River.

THE UCT HOTEL, FORMERLY THE PARK RIVER HOTEL, FORMERLY THE BELLERICA HOTEL



Park River Hotel

The UCT Hotel was located just south of the Mills and Farup Garage, later known as Bateman Motors. The lots were owned by Fred Hevrig 1885 to 1887 and then by William Schendel to 1889 and then to Alex Bersie who built the Hotel on the two 25 foot lots. He sold it to John Kern for \$8,000.00 in 1891 and he sold it to Kate Mundigel in 1897. It was then sold to Wallace Magoon in 1904 when it was called the Bellerica Hotel which was named after the town in Canada that Magoons came from. These were the parents of Annie O'Brien of Park River. Then it was sold to Ferier LaLier in 1916 who in turn sold it to Mrs. M. Nethelene in 1921. It was

operated by Lila Barnes, a daughter of Nethelenes. Thereafter, it was sold to Inga Neste who ran the hotel in the name of Park River Hotel which was later changed to UCT Hotel (United Commercial Travelers).

WINDSOR HOTEL

This hotel was located across the street and slightly south of the UCT Hotel. It was located on three 25-foot lots and the first owner was Jacob P. Birder who acquired it on January 9, 1891. He sold it to Henry J. Randall for \$3,000.00 on July 18, 1894. Upon his death it was sold by his Estate to George K. McEwan and James J. Dougherty on September 23, 1919. He then operated it until he sold it on December 3, 1927 to Kate Parnell of Cavalier for \$4,250.00. She operated it until she sold it to Inga O. Neste on August 25, 1931 for \$6,000.00. Shortly after that, the building was completely rennovated.

Upon the taking over of the Windsor Hotel the UCT Hotel was shut down and made into a number of apartments until it was sold to Bateman Motors who then razed the building and made into a car lot. Bateman Motors then sold the garage and lots to Erickson Motors, which is now out of business and the garage is vacant and the lots now stand empty, which is what they were 100 years ago.

The Windsor Hotel was inherited from Inga O. Neste by her daughter Esther Knutson who operated the hotel until she retired and sold it to SKM Enterprises, Inc., on October 1, 1970 and it was closed down due to severe electrical regulations which were too costly to endure. Thereafter it was razed and now stands as empty lots which is what they were 100 years ago also.

(By Roy A. Neste)



Windsor Hotel

WINDSOR'S DAYS ARE NUMBERED

PARK RIVER, N.D.- After serving this Walsh County city for 93 years, the Windsor Hotel will close October 14.

The white frame structure, right on the main street downtown, is a victim of stiffer regulations now being enforced by the state. The wiring is substandard and it would cost an estimated \$25,000 to replace it. The owners have decided to close the landmark building and sell its furnishings at public auction on October 28.

Hotel furnishings, many antiques, will be sold in the afternoon at the Park River Curling Club, with Francis Chromy, Conway, N.D., calling the sale. The old hotel will be available for anyone who wants to tear it down for the material. If not, owners will demolish the building.

By next summer, the lot-- which has been home for the Windsor since 1885, will be bare.

The early history of the Windsor Hotel is sketchy. The hotel was apparently built shortly after Park River was founded.

The first settlement, known as Kensington, was founded in 1878 or 1879 when the northern end of the valley was settled. Park River is on the extreme western edge of the valley, with a portion of the city clinging to the old beach of glacial Lake Agassiz. Life was difficult for the early settlers. Grand Forks was the nearest market, over 50 miles way across bridgeless rivers and coulees.

In 1881, the St. Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba Railroad reached Grafton. Now farmers were only 12 miles away from their markets. However, Park River residents needed even closer transportation and in 1884, a year before the hotel was built, the Manitoba Railroad extended a line from Larimore, N.D. to Park River.

Park River was then only marked by a few dwellings, but with the approach of Jim Hill's railroad, it burst into growth. Park River was officially incorporated in 1884.

Henry W. Kelly, publisher and editor of the Walsh County Press in Park River, is co-owner of the hotel. He said the building is a collection of older wooden buildings which were assembled. "We are probably looking at between three and four different buildings which were joined together," he said.

The late Inga Neste operated the hotel for the longest period-- 39 years. She took over in the early 1930's and continued operation into the early 1960's. Over the years, she was assisted by her daughter, Esther Knutson, and later Gertrude Wilson, both of Park River. Mrs. Wilson recalls her mother worked there at age 16 when taking a course in dressmaking in Park River. In fact, she met her future husband, Ole, while waiting on tables in the dining room. When she took over in the early 1930s, there was no

central heat. Coal stoves were placed in the hallways of the building to fend off winter's chill. There was no indoor plumbing, and guests used large white basins and pitchers for water.

Over the years, the Windsor gained a reputation of being a clean hotel- a reputation that continued through present ownership. "The floors are so clean right now I wouldn't be afraid to eat off them," said Kelly.

Mrs. Wilson said that years ago the state inspector said the Windsor was one of the cleanest hotels in North Dakota.

A dining room was operated in connection with the hotel during the 1930s and 1940s. Meals were served family-style, with diners passing massive bowls of mashed potatoes, vegetables, and other fixings as well as platters of meat.

The lobby was the city's gathering place where men puffing on stogies and cigarettes or chewing snuff would discuss crops, politics or area news. "Before television, visiting in the lobby was a good way to catch up on the news," Kelly said. Unlike many small city hotels, the Windsor did not go into a decline in later years. The dining room closed, but business continued to be good.

During the late 1960s and early 1970s anti-ballistic missile crews stayed at the hotel, keeping the occupancy high. In 1970, Mrs. Knutson, who was given the hotel by her mother, decided to put it up for sale. At the same time, the SKM Corporation made up of Park River residents, was formed.

Other partners besides Kelly are Gerald "Bud" Sobolik, Lorenz Mahrer, W.C. Skjerven and John Maier. Kelly said the group was planning to go into the cable television business when

the hotel went on the market. Kelly said the hotel was a valuable asset to the city and the firm thought it was a good investment.

However, the group soon soured on the hotel business. The management help they hired were a disappointment, they said, and soon the stockholders were manning the desk and carrying bags. Later the late Frank Jarus and his wife, Marcy, Lankin, N.D., farmers, were hired to run the hotel, and it regained its fine reputation.

Over the years, the hotel has been a financial success for the firm, which finally did get cable licenses for Park River in 1971 and Cavalier in 1972.

"I don't think there is anyone in Park River who wants to see the hotel go. It has been a part of the community for so long. I hate to see it go," said Kelly.

The auction is expected to attract many antique buffs. Kelly said some of the furnishings probably date back to its founding. He said some items have been pilfered or sold over the years, but many of the furnishings, pitchers and bowls and pictures will go on the block.

Meanwhile, the days of the Windsor Hotel are numbered, and soon the hotel will be gone.

YE OLDE MEDICINE SHOPPE

A new retail drug store, Ye Olde Medicine Shoppe, opened in Park River in 1977 under the co-ownership of Laurie Larson and David Jorgensen. The corner of Harris and Highway 17 was chosen as the location.

The lot was purchased from Dorothy (Bina) and Ernie Thompson. A drive-up window was installed and is used by many of it's customers.

The main objective of the store was to bring a personal touch to its patrons with friendliness and helpfulness coming first.

Ye Olde Medicine Shoppe has been managed by Laurie Larson, R. Ph., since its doors opened. Her husband is Dick Larson and they have two children, Brandon and Wendy.

WILLIAM ALBERT YOUNG

In 1908 William A. Young bought the Park River Republican newspaper and devoted his career to serving the publishing and printing profession in Park River, Fordville, and Lankin; however, always maintaining his home in Park River. In 1934 he and his family moved to Drayton, N.D. where he published the Red River Valley Leader until 1945.

At the time of his death in August of 1968, Mrs. Rosamond O'Brien Lowe, President of the Walsh County Press published the following: "The former Park River newspaper publisher retained a lively interest in the Park River community, as well as a professional's concern for his chosen field- in that he was a subscriber of The Press here for all these years, and wrote a letter to this editor at least once a year, patting yours truly on the back or chiding me a bit if standards would slip. He was a critic that all publishers wish they could be lucky enough to have on their subscription list- a gentleman trying to better his profession and his fellow man."

THE WALSH COUNTY PRESS

It is appropriate that the chronicler of a community's history should be its oldest continuously existing business.., in this instance, the 103 year-old Walsh County Press.

Granted, it does not have the same name as the original weekly newspaper began with in 1882 (The Park River Gazette), but the process of delivering a weekly paper to this community has never been interrupted since the last week in May of 1882, and that is a commendable record, when you consider that the ten newspapers which have served this community of Park River have gone to press 5309 times prior to Park River's Centennial observance July 1-2-3-4, 1984.

As mentioned at the beginning of this biographical sketch, the beginning of newspapering here in this Park River Community was the Park River Gazette which was started the last week in May of 1882. Then it absorbed the Park River Witness in 1891 to become the Park River Gazette-Witness. This lasted until 1900 when it absorbed the Park River News to become the Park River Gazette-News. Then another merger occurred in 1911 when it took over the Park River Republican and Adams Enterprise. Then on May 9, 1919; another change in name occurred when it broadened its image to appeal to a broad segment of readers and took on the name of the Walsh County Farmers Press and went by that name until May 27, 1926 when it shortened its masthead to read Walsh County Press. Then on June 12, 1930 it took over the Walsh County Independent of Adams and wound up with the lengthy name of the Walsh County Press and Walsh County Independent...a monicker that was carried on top of the front page until April 13, 1939 when it reverted back to its present and proud name of The Walsh County Press.

There have been many editors and publishers since the first sheet rolled off the hand-fed press back in 1882, and we will list them with the dates of their tenure (in some cases, the dates are approximate). We were unable to determine who the first publisher was, but W.D. Bates was editor as of August 1885 and continued to be boss until 1891 when he was replaced by J. Morley Wyard, who continued until 1896. There was a gap in our records until Frank Prochaska came on the scene in Feb. 1900 and remained at the helm until Aug. 1919. From then on, here's the line-up: E.K. Jenkins, Sept. 1919 to 1921; H.E. Wagstrom, 1921 to Jan. 5, 1923; S.B. Eidsmoe, Jan. 19, 1923 to Nov. 27, 1925; J.H. (Jake) Ulvan, Dec. 31, 1925 to Aug. 1928; A.J. Norin, Sept. 13, to Oct. 4, 1928; Lars J. Siljan, April, 1929 to May, 1930.

Then, the still familiar and famous name of Harry F. O'Brien, a former farm boy from Cato Township in Walsh County, came on the local scene, when he and his wife, the former Rosamond Thoe of rural Devils Lake, purchased the farmer-owned Walsh County Press in June of 1930, and also took over the Walsh County Independent of Adams. They built the weekly into one of the most widely-read weekly publications in the state,...yes, even the Upper Midwest. One of the main attractions was Harry's nationally-renowned "Read 'Em And Weep" column, which was re-printed during his 23 years as publisher at some time or other in many of the major national magazines such as *Colliers*, *Saturday Evening Post*, etc. This combined with his lone-wolf image as the only Democratic weekly publisher in the state, and its only Democratic state senator for many years, gave the 8-page 1150 circulation weekly a reputation of outspokenness, wit and honesty that the present publisher is envious of. When he was defeated by Milton Young for U.S. Senator in 1952, he cooled his political ardor somewhat and turned it over to his very talented and hardworking helpmate and wife, Rosamond, who was

elected to the State Senate and served until 1960. In 1953, Harry also decided to relax a little from his ironman role of publisher, editor, printer and community champion; so he offered a partnership to his nephew, Henry W. Kelly, another farm boy from Cato Township in Ramsey County. The 26-year old University of Minnesota journalism graduate arrived in Park River in June of 1953, 23 years to the week after his uncle and aunt took up their ownership of The Press. Kelly was accompanied by his wife, the former Georgette M. Assad of Minneapolis and their 3-year old son, Sean.

Sadly, Henry's training was set-back by the sudden death of his uncle, Harry, on October 10 of that same year. Then, in April of 1956, Rosamond took Henry and Georgette as partners in The Walsh County Press, and this continued until April 1966, when Henry and Georgette assumed sole ownership. However, Rosamond remained associated with the Press as both a writer of her widely-respected Short Stops Column and an advisor to Henry and Georgette until her death in February, 1974.

The Press has grown from an 8-page 1130 circulation weekly, to a 24-28 page, publication going to 3500 homes each week. In 1930, the newspaper staff included Rosamond, Harry and printer Ed Carlen...now, it numbers 12 to 13 people, depending on the number of projects underway. The newspaper, which once was printed on a small hand-fed press, now is printed at a large central printing plant at New Rockford, of which the Kellys are partners.

As The Press has grown in the 31 years that Henry and Georgette have resided in Park River, so has their family. Whereas, Sean was their only child in 1953, their Clan has grown to include Gregory, Colleen and Dennis.

Being so closely associated with The Press office during their childhood years, apparently infused them with printers ink and the journalism "bug", because all four Kelly kids went to journalism school at the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks (although Greg later switched to his Dad's alma mater).

Sean married the former Cheryl Baumann (daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bob Baumann of Park River) and they now publish The Ransom County Gazette at Lisbon. They are the parents of three sons: Gannon, 11; Fallon, 7; and Brendan, 4.

Greg is publisher of The Bowman County Pioneer at Bowman.

Colleen is publisher of The Golden Valley News at Beach and of The Billings County Pioneer of Medora-Belfield.

Dennis graduated in May of this year from UND's Journalism School, and is working for his brother at Bowman.

The Kelly Family also own The Cavalier County Republican at Langdon and share the ownership of The Mahnomen County Pioneer at Mahnomen, Minn., with Henry's brother, Pat.

Georgette is the daughter of the late William and Victoria Assad, a prominent South Minneapolis grocery and real estate family. Her parents were natives of Lebanon, and Georgette has five sisters and two brothers. One brother is deceased.

Henry is the son of Mrs. Ann Kelly of Park River and the late Henry E. Kelly. The Kellys farmed in Cato Township of Ramsey County until 1941, at which time they sold out and moved to Minneapolis where the family bought a grocery store and the senior Mr. Kelly became a stationery engineer for the Ralston-Purina Company. He died in April 1960. Henry has two brothers: Tom, who is chief photographer for The Catholic Chronicle of Toledo, Ohio and Pat, publisher of The Mahnomen County Pioneer at Mahnomen, Minn.



Walsh County Press



Standing: Sean, Greg, Colleen and Dennis. Seated: Henry W. and Georgette.

Walsh County Agricultural And Training School

"The First School of Its Kind in North Dakota"

"The public schools of the country have taken their present form largely through accident.

Circumstances so shaped themselves that while the counties were organized with a superintendent and administrative machinery for teaching elementary subjects, the secondary part of the work was in the hands of single districts, to which the children from villages and farms must go if they desired training. When a child was ready for college, once more he entered into institutions which were controlled by the state at large, but between the rural school and the college, his schooling was controlled in almost every case by some town or city. In such conditions, it is strange, not that rural life instruction has been neglected, but that it has received any attention at all.

All over the country has sprung up a demand for secondary schools which should teach children in accordance with the great vital interests of country life. There are many private schools of this type, where students attend on a tuition basis. In Alabama, Georgia, New York, Wisconsin and North Dakota, the state has undertaken in some measure to supply this need. In Wisconsin the first move was made by L.D. Harvey. In North Dakota, Senator Gibbens of Cando was the father of the legislation to establish schools of this kind. The Gibbens schools of North Dakota are the result in this state to supply secondary schooling for the people in the country and villages. The unit of

The petition for the establishment of the Walsh County Agricultural and Training School was presented to the county commissioners in September, 1912. The proposition for its establishment, carrying with it an appropriation of \$13,000, was carried at a popular election in the following November. These preliminary legal steps were taken according to the provisions of the Gibbens Act in 1911. On January 8, 1913, the board of county commissioners settled the location of the school at Park River. For the selection of this site there were two reasons. The first of these was that Park River is almost exactly in the center of the county and is in many ways desirable in location for the school. The second was that the citizens of Park River had been instrumental from the first in agitating the establishment of such



W.C.A.S.



W.C.A.S.

administration in North Dakota, as in Wisconsin, is the county.

The purpose of the Gibbens schools is sometimes spoken of as two-fold, the training for agriculture and the training for teaching, but these two purposes, as far as secondary schooling goes, blend almost into one. No one is fit to teach a country school without some knowledge of country life, its broad economic problems, its social problems of absorbing interest. No one will secure this knowledge by studying other topics and associating with other occupations exclusively until the time comes to make use of the country school as a money earning matter. The rural school is waking up and coming to demand specialists and training in rural life atmosphere is essential.

a school and that they had canvassed for funds and secured an option on a beautiful site which they offered as an inducement for the location of the institution at Park River. In March, 1913, the Gibbens Act was amended so as to remove the limitation of the yearly maintenance from the county and authorizing the county board to appropriate \$5,000 for improvements annually. In March, 1915, the act was again amended so as to authorize the issuance of county agricultural and training schools bonds up to \$10,000. All of these legislative amendments of the act have been originated, drawn and submitted to the senate by Mr. Smith-Peterson, President of the Board of Trustees of this institution.

On April 4, 1913, the State Agricultural and Training School Board met at Fargo and approved of the establishment of the school by unanimous vote. Two members of the board went to Wisconsin to visit and inspect the county agricultural schools there. In May the trustees elected a principal and the faculty was later completed by the selection of three additional teachers and a secretary. In June, 1913, the ground was broken for a building. On the 13 September, 1913, recitations began in the city hall and in quarters borrowed from the city schools. Just before the holidays, the school moved into the new building which was dedicated the 7 January, 1914.

The school stands on an elevation west of Park River. It is

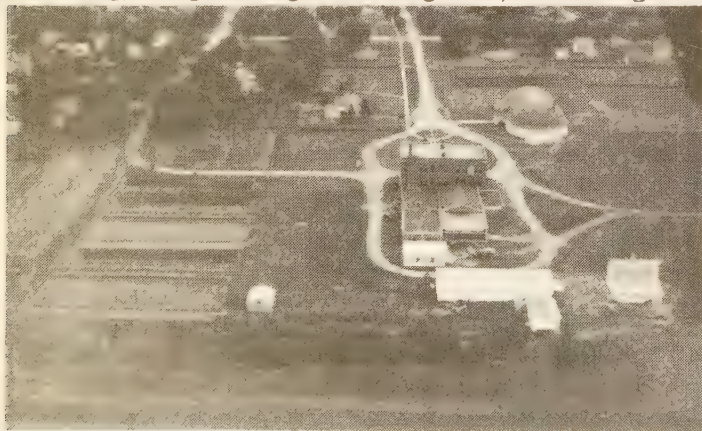
almost exactly in the center of the county. Walsh is one of the larger counties in the state. It contains 1282 square miles, 215 more than are contained in the state of Rhode Island. There are no other special educational institutions in the northeastern corner of the state. The soil is excellent, the crop yields are among the best in the state and the farmers of the county are the most progressive in the state. The numerous railroads, abundant trees and responsive soil make the agricultural possibilities magnificent. Large, elegant farm houses, embowed in trees, are typical of the Walsh County landscape.

The city of Park River has about 1,800 inhabitants. It is a beautiful town and is noted for the public spirit of its citizens. It has cement sidewalks, electric lights, waterworks and beautiful parks. It is reached by Great Northern Railway and by good highways. There are six churches in the city, Presbyterian, Methodist, Episcopal, Norwegian Lutheran, Roman Catholic and Baptist. Students are advised to affiliate themselves with the church of their choice and take part in its activities.



W.C.A.S.

There are two buildings, a modern commodious school building and a smaller frame structure used for housing farm machinery, autos and so on for the use of classes in farm engineering. The main building is of Hebron brick, finished in natural birch, with hardwood floors. It has steam heat, electric lights, fan ventilation, modern plumbing with shower baths and throughout is such a building as any citizen of Walsh County may be proud to own. An addition at the back contains the forge and boiler rooms. The remainder of the basement is occupied by wood shops, agronomy, laboratory for cooking and a smaller one for sewing, a large well lighted reading room, office and girls'



Air View of W.C.A.S.

locker rooms. The upper floor has beautiful, furnished recitation rooms and the south half forms one large room used for public meetings, gymnasium, basketball, military drill and other special occasions.

An appropriation has been made for a modern barn, and work on this project will be begun as soon as necessary preparations have been completed

The grounds comprise seventeen and one-half acres. The south part of this is being brought into cultivation, and was planted in the spring of 1915 to varieties of grains, vegetables and plants. The north end of the grounds has been partially set with trees, but otherwise is not to be cultivated at present. A number of beautiful trees and shrubs have been set along the drives and up in the ornamental lawn in front, while a tract on the east side has been planted as an orchard with apples, cherries and smaller fruits. The natural beauty of the location is very striking. The main building is conspicuous from the railroad and highways and the view in every direction from the top of the building is charming, looking out for miles across the fertile North Dakota farms with the river and the town in the foreground.

"OUR MOTTO," the song written by Bertha Lee Broyles and W.T. Purdy for Walsh County Agricultural and Training School in Park River.

North Dakota, North Dakota, Noble Prairie State,
We, thy loyal sons and daughters hail thee, good and great.
Ever upward, ever onward, to far heights attain!
We to thee now pledge our service Hand and Brain.

Walsh County, North Dakota, Be the best of all,
Pressing in the ranks of progress true to duty's call.
With the beauty of thy rivers the wealth thy fertile plain,
We will bring to mankind's service Hand and Brain.



C.D. Lord Residence

An agriculturist at the school was available to help farmers wishing assistance in problems of crop rotation, diseases of trees or livestock, as well as offer services in presenting programs and demonstrations on request. All citizens are invited to visit the school any day they choose. The school offers programs in literary, dramatic, musical and lectures. All are free to the public. The school is open to all students of Walsh County tuition free."

Board and room for the students was secured in a number of homes in Park River. Rental prices varied greatly, according to location and the nature of light, heat and other conveniences to be furnished. Average price of board and room is perhaps about \$20



Girl's Dormitory W.C.A.S.

per month. The most economical method is perhaps for a group of young men or young ladies to secure a suite of rooms and do their own housekeeping. This plan makes it possible for them to use many supplies brought from home. By 1919, the board could see that the number of students wishing to live in dormitory type housing was increasing. They secured the Park River Hotel building on a lease and began to fit the building for students of the county school.

In 1918, a barn was built to provide space for a dairy room, a feed room and stables.

In 1925, the school purchased the residence of C.D. Lord and this allowed them space to house 30 young ladies. "The dormitory was run under the supervision of an experienced preceptress and assistant according to the usual dormitory restrictions."

In 1927 the carriage house was remodeled for the superintendent's house. Also in 1927 they started construction of an agricultural assembly hall, a building to serve as a community center, host to the State Potato Show and winter fairs, livestock shows and many community affairs. The building was oval shaped, 74 feet by 148 feet with a 37 foot ceiling. The large dome-shaped building could be seen for miles and was built

by David Meberg, Contractor, under the supervision of E.J. Tainter, Superintendent. The building cost \$2,700. The seating capacity was thought to be about 3,000. The building was repaired in 1960, but was torn down in 1982 when extensive repairs were needed to the roof and floor.

For a number of years the Birder Residence at the North end of Briggs Ave. was used for a boys dormitory. This housed about 30 boys.

The school was accredited by the North Central Association in 1929. All courses regularly taught in accordance with the Smith-Hughes Act and reimbursement is made of part of the expense involved so that the county does not bear the entire expense of the operation of the school. The school also offered instruction in music, band, glee club, voice, piano and instrumental instructions.

Special consideration was given the students by starting all classes later in the fall so students could earn money picking potatoes, etc. "Short term" students attended from November to the middle of March so they could work later in the fall and early spring. Students taking agriculture and home economics had summer projects with supervision by instructors. During the winter, evening classes were available to farmers, homemakers, elevator men and young people interested in commercial subjects but who worked during the day. 495 people were enrolled in this group, organized in the fall to choose the topics they wished to study and select their leaders.

The first two year winter course graduates in 1915 were: Elmer Anderson, Almer M. Anderson, Minnie Berg, Henry Borgeson, Grace Erickson, Hjalmer Lundeen, Alfred Midgarden, Sig Oen, Clarence Kjos, Arthur Thompson and Lawrence Thompson. A two year teacher training course was also offered and after completion of this course the students received a certificate qualifying them for teachers in the rural schools. One gets the impression that WCAS was much like the trade schools today, as they offered courses in poultry, bee-keeping, forge, wood working and engineering, agronomy, science and animal husbandry. The regular long term course of study included classes in agriculture, homemaking, english, history, geometry, commercial subjects



Dome-shaped gymnasium built in 1927

and music.

Many clubs began to appear at WCAS as time went on. The first Glee Club appeared in 1926 and consisted of 25 boys. Later the Girls Glee Club was formed and some time later they combined. The boys were "Wild Cats," the girls "Wailing Cats." The first Pep Club was composed of 12 boys chosen by faculty members. Boys and Girls Basketball teams were organized, the girls team was active for about 10 years. Baseball and track appeared in 1928. Football was organized in 1933 with George Lee as coach. In 1930, the National Honor Society and William A. Broyles FFA Chapter, which was formerly the Ag Club, appeared. The FFA Chapter crop judging teams were active and took many honors throughout the years. During the War years, many had a patriotic theme. The school newspaper known as "The Wildcat" in 1930 was always interesting. The name was changed to "The Chronicle" in 1938. The history of the school was documented each year in the school annual. The first annual was "Walsh County Agricultural and Training School," then came the "Wildcat Meow," the "Aggie," and now it is "Sieggga."

Home coming was always a big event at WCAS. Selection of homecoming queen, first place float, the pep rallies including the "snake dance" and the homecoming dances were important dates on every student's calendar.

Junior-Senior Banquets and Proms continue to be a part of student events



Addition built by Walsh County Fair Association

The Walsh County Fair Association built an addition east of the dome shaped gym to allow more space for the annual Walsh County Fair and Potato Show. This area is used for the hockey arena in the winter.

Early in the 1950's another addition was built onto the school, this one in front, and provided office space and a new home economics and music room.

Sports will always be important to young people. Basketball, football, hockey and track continue to interest both boys and girls.

WCAS Board members were dedicated to assure the school's progress in academic fields as well as provide the proper staff and building for the students. Board members who served the Walsh County Agricultural and Training School were appointed by the County Commissioners. Members of the first board were: E. Smith-Peterson, Edward Erickson, John Harris, A.C. Bylin and John Dunn.



W.C.A.S. 1955

Some of the men who have followed these include: Karl J. Farup, W.J. Hoover, Lars Lundeen, Robert Arnot, J.C. McNish, Jerome Ruzicka, G.C. Laithwaite, Knute Boe, Benjamin Rinde, John Danielski, Albert Midgarden, Clarence Gaarder, Art Trovatten, P.J. Flaten, Donald Dike, Leo Danielski, Murdo Smith, Charles Erickson, George Berntson, Ralph Boe, Duane Hylden, Carol Ellingson, Chris Midgarden, Henry Stoltman, John Karas and A.C. Bye. County Superintendents who served as Secretary-Treasurer for the Board were: Edward Erickson, W.J. Hoover, Benjamin Rinde, A.G. Strand and A.C. Bye.

For a number of years, 1914 to 1933, the two schools, Park River Special School District No. 78 and Walsh County Agricultural and Training School, functioned well together, but when financial difficulties arose the Park River High School students were transferred to WCAS.

From 1933 to 1972, WCAS was the only high school for the Park River students. In 1972, under the direction of Superintendent William Galloway and Principal Richard D. Clarens, the Park River School District No. 78 bought WCAS and once again Park River has a High School.



W.C.A.S. Board Members

E. Smith Peterson

J.A. Dunn

John A. Harris

A.G. Bylin

Ed. Erickson, County
Supt. of School

Robert Arnot

J.S. McNish

Karl J. Farup

Jerome Ruzicka

W.J. Hoover, Supt. of Schools

George Laithwaite

Albert Midgarden

Clarence Gaarder

Lars Lundin

Arthur Trovatten

Murdo Smith

Benjamin Rinde

Knute Boe

Peder J. Flaten

Donald Dike

A.G. Strand, Supt. of
Schools

Charles Erickson

Leo Danielski

George Berntson

Henry Stoltman

J. Karas

Carol Ellingson

Jay Penas

Duane Hylden

Some Of The People That Made W.C.A.S.

County Commissioners

James McDonald
E. Schuster
Hugh Loughhead
Iver J. Kluxdal
O.E. Lofthus
T. Wysocki
Syver Hogfoss

O.D. Nelson
Frank C. Riske
Chester Thompson
Frank Wasick
Emil Borgeson
Elling Hogfoss
F.A. Schrank
Ole Orstad



W.C.A.S. Faculty

W.A. Broyles
Bertha Broyles
George Hargrove
Florence A. Sly
M.H. Aygarn
Nora Walstad
Beatrice Alm
Francis McCrary
Irene Gibson
Paul Carpenter
Burnire Britt
Homer Dixon
Roy Gieseing

Walter Halsey
Arthur Bondwant
Edward Jones
Alberta Senton
Florence Franklin
James George
W. Steadman Humphrey
Edna Sherman
Nellie Bryan
E.J. Tainter
Louise Currie
O.W. Yagve
Walter Botsford



1933-34 W.C.A.S. Faculty

Front Row: F. Thorliefson, G. Walker, Floyd Ferguson, George Lee, Lyness Lloyd, McDonald

Back Row: Donalda McDonald, Cora Mattson, Laura Warner, Alpha Knight, Alma Charlson, Dorothy Clark

C.B. Setterberg
Clara Berg
Mable Brunsvold
J.I. Evanson
J. Jamieson
M.C. Melrose
C.B. Wright
Evelyn Rinde
George Moxon
G.A. Eliason
Laura Geir
Alice Flaten
Alice Kops
Albert Zak
C.R. Miller
Claude Veach
Lillian Hovland
Floyd Ferguson
M.L. Ergenbright
Oscar Hansen
George Walker
Leona Tatum
H.L. Matthew
G.S. Peterson
Hazel Monson
Alice Dahlen
Hedvig Rice
Fred Willson
Blanch Oberman
Fridjon Thorliefson
Helen Beard
Iva Bell
Bernice Peck
Robert Wagner
J.W. Riddle
Oscar Severson
Hazelle Carroll
Dorothy Fredrich
Ruth Williamson
John Hovland
M.H. McDonald
Elton King
Alma Charlson
Alice Sprague
John Kuhn
Florence Peters
Robert Coleman
Eulalie Huckle
Dorothy Clark
George Lee
Lyness Lloyd
Cora Mattson
Alpha Knight
Ralph Smith
Donalda McDonald
James H. Erickson
Floyd Falgren
Samuel Myrant

Margaret Friis
Clarysse Ness
Marguerite Erickson
Margaret Gang
Eleanor Trzcinski
Helen Thompson
H.U. Miller
Alfred Sowl
Helen Borgeson
Jean Crabtree
Harold Sullivan
Hjalmar Miller
William E. Koenker
Lillian Heald
Irene Boynton
Clara Ellingson
Theodore Peet
Harold Wyman
Oscar Isaacson
Irven Hagen
Warren Thompson
Alice Mae Kasper
Dorothy Anderson
Dorothy Molland
E.R. Forbes
Ione Erickson
Avis Hermanson
Marjorie Eggerstrom
Wendell Wichmann
Kenneth Von Ruden
Myron Lempe
Rose Marie Lohse
John Walters, Supt.
Carl Knutson
Nellie Thayer
Helen Grant
Ragna Haslekaas
Harry Brodin
William Skjerven, Sr.
Nellie Abrahamson
F.U. Smith, Supt.
Howard Gordon
Merlind Lannoye
Herbert Thiele
Virginia Falter
Lloyd Berntson
John C.H. Moan
Harlan Andrews
Gayle Sobolik
Marian Onstad
Edward Otto
Bernard Platz
Joe Kouba
June Fredrickson
Walter Johnson
William Galloway, Supt.
Jo Ann Lund
Lowell Miller

Faculty

Anton Alkofer
Minard Bakken
Shirley Brandt
Kenneth Melin
Carl Rodlund

Helen Raney
Gary Shipley
Carol Weller
Arnold Stockstad

School Secretary

Vivan Brady (Meagher)
Beatrice Anderson (Olson)
Laura Warner (Ellingson)
Loraine Bakke (Windingland)

Dorothy Dobmeier
Luella Olson
Norma McLaughlin (Lewis)
Alpha Kjelland



W.C.A.S. Graduates

1914

John Berg
Ernest Harris

1915

Albert Bennington
Arthur Erickson
Elmer Anderson
Elmer M. Anderson
Minnie Berg
Hjalmer Lundeen
Alfred Midgarden
Clarence Kjos
Arthur Thompson
Lawrence Thompson
Grace Erickson
Henry Borgeson

Sigurd Oen

1916

Berglot Astboe
George Berg
Elizabeth Catherwood
Elsie Dahm
Clara Drevecky
Leo Harazim
Melvin Johnson
Clinton Lewis
Stasia Lovcik
Phyllis Martin
Albert Nelson
John Ramsey
Frank Schildberger

1917

Myrtle Anderson
Florence Bylin
Nora Drevecky
Bertha Ellingson
Louise Fedje
Charley Erickson
Alice Fredrickson
Selina Gunhus
Elizabeth Holt
Ruth Johnson
Clinton Knutson
Annie Moen
Signe Momerak
Sigrun Northfield
Ella Thoe
Pearl Eyolfson

Hamilton Hurtt
Adolph Jensen
Victor Johnson
Iver Hodlund
Dorothy Geston
Anton Levang
Edval Lundeen
Austin Ryan
Edvina Machovsky
Dewey Midgarden
Mary Nickolson
George Nickolson

1918

Gyda Anderson
Irene Erickson
Myrtle Fedje



CLASS ROLL

Colors, Maroon and Gold
Flower, White Carnation
Motto, "Life Is Worth While"

GRADUATES

From Teachers' Training Course
John Berner Berg, Edinburg, N. D.
Graduate Model High School, 1914

From College Preparatory Course
Ernest Merriam Harris, Park River, N. D.
Graduate Park River High School 1914

From Agricultural Course
Albert Hilton Bennington, Park River, N. D.
Graduate Park River High School 1914

From Three Year Agricultural Course
Arthur Edgar Erickson, Lankin, N. D.

From Two Year Winter Course
Elmer Anderson Jalmir Lundeen
Elmer Malvin Anderson Alfred Midgarden
Minnie Berg Sigurd Oen
Henry Adolph Borge-son Arthur Henry Thompson
Grace May Erickson Lawrence Thompson
Clarence Kjos

COMMENCEMENT DAY PROGRAM

12 Noon. Dinner to graduates, speakers and friends.

2 P. M. Commencement Exercises.

Selection.....Orchestra
March.....Orchestra
Invocation.....The Reverend S. Currie
"Water Lilies".....Girls' Glee Club
Piano—"To Spring"—Op. 43, No. 6, Edv. Greig.....Mr. Mayfield
Vocal—"The Rosary"—Eth Nevin.....
"I Love You Truly"—C. Jacobs-Bond.....Mr. Mayfield
Address—"Making a Living and Making a Life".....Dr. George A. Abbott
"Fairy Waltz".....Girls' Chorus
Piano—"Etude Artistique"—Benj. Godard.....
Presentation of Class.....Principal W. A. Broyle
Awarding of Diplomas.....
Vocal—"Who Knows?"—Ernest Ball.....
"Just a Wearyin' for You"—C. Jacobs-Bond.....Mr. Mayfield
Benediction.....The Rev. W. G. Medland
Selection.....Orchestra

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

E. Smith-Peterson, President
Edward Erickson, Secretary
J. A. Dunn
J. A. Harris
A. G. Bylin
ADVISORY MEMBERS
Supt. E. J. Taylor President J. H. Worst

FACULTY 1914-15

William A. Broyles, Principal
Bertha Lee Broyles
George M. Hargrave
Beatrice E. Ahm
Nora C. Walsted
Francis A. McCary
Grace Erickson, Student Assistant

FIRST COMMENCEMENT
WALSH COUNTY AGRICULTURAL
AND TRAINING SCHOOL

JUNE ELEVEN NINETEEN HUNDRED FIFTEEN
IN THE AFTERNOON

COUNTY SCHOOL BUILDING

PARK RIVER NORTH DAKOTA



1917; Faculty entertained the Seniors and Alumni

Lillian Fredrickson
Christine Fjeld
Emil Levin
Edwin Momerak
Juel Thompson
Oscar Almen
Nels Johnson
Lizzie Lewis
Olive Skyrud
Blanche Starkson
John Stevens
Thordis Thomasson
Max Waith
Minnie Jobe
Lola Erickson

1919

Louise Arason
Edna Baird
Clara Ellingson
Palma Grobel
Cornelius Krollman
Olga Lindell
Sarah Moen
Esther Neste
Ivah Shuley
Lucille Tewksbury
Archie Johnson
Myrtle Johnson
Alice Ryan

1920

Hazel Field
Nora Gaarder
Andrew Momerak
Ethel Peoples
Ferdina Reinholdt
Ida Thompson
Herbert Gryde
Lily Nygard

1921

Esther Eaton
Katie Gustafson
Frances Lewis
Marion Midgarden
Neome Neste

1922

Hulda Lindell
Gundar Midgarden
Annie Sunderland
Thelma Sundvor
Warren Tewksbury
Bogga Thorstien
Minnie Ulberg
Morrall Walstad
Robert Bell
Agnes Haug
Wallace Ferguson

1923

Pearl Buckley
Alwylda Anderson
Clifford Craig
Hazel Fauske
Ingvald Kravick
May Fauske
Minnie Letzring
Glenn Martin
Edith Nelson
Hattie Tewksbury
Irene Wickstrom
Olga Nelson
Amos Flaten
Leonard Jensen
Thorlaf Hjelmataad

1924

Evelyn Aitkin
Gordon Bagne
Jean Campbell

Gladys Cooper
Alfred Dahlen
Edith Ford
Elvin Gryde
Lewis Kouba
Agnes Lutovsky
George Lofthus
Victor Lindgren
Herman Lundeen
Beulah McLaughlin
Gustav Momerak
Ruth Neste
Henry T. Olson
Elsie Payor
Clinton Peoples
Fred Sunderland
Inga Strand
Thelma Wick

1925

Adna Axtell
Leona Bartell
Ralph Boe
Anna Bese
Roy Cairns
Elvin Dahlen
Lawrence Ferguson
Grace Fuller
Esther Flaten
Pauline Flaten
Naomi Flaten
George Holmes
Ordeen Haugen
Magnus Johnson
Viola Knutson
Delia Lundeen
Lillian Lutovsky
Myrtle Martin
Joann Midgarden
Gordon McBride
Oscar Westby
Christine Novak
Selina Rustan
Catherine Shaw
Oscar Severson
Melve Skyrud
Olive Torson
Ted Torgerson

1926

Earl Bassingwaite
Clifford Berg
Mina Boe
Lenore Clemetson
Leo O'Conner
Ada Coulter
Alden Clemetson
Hazel Falter
Gunhild Grovem
Mildred Johnson
Wilbur Kelling
Bergliot Larson
Joseph Lindstrom
Ernest Letzring

Edna McLean
Dorothy Otten
Irene Pearson
John Pederson
Ruby Qually
Palmer Rustan
Harry Schrag
Nellie Trovatten
Fred Walstrom
Marjorie Wishart
Gertrude McIntyre

1927

Christine Anderson
Birdie Clemetson
Adrian Connor
Bjorn Davidson
Clarence Herriot
Emory Hanson
Chris Midgarden
Walter Johnson
Joyce Lein
Kristien Jorgenson
Alta Rettlink
Gordon Magoon
George McKenzie
Alyce Neste
Eva Rosenberg
John Ottum
Oscar Settland
Edna Kjelland
Esther Larson
Bjorn Melstad
Borghild Sampson
Clara Starkson
Gladys Thompson
Soava Thorleifson
Gina Arenson
Eva Hanson
Rose Thompson

1928

Albin Anderson
Alice Berg
Elsie Connor
Lloyd Edwards
Bessie Falter
Christian Geir
Ben Goertzen
Lloyd Gillickson
Lorna Hagen
Hilda Heidlund
Victor Lundeen
Edwin Letzring
Esther Lindgren
Annie Lindell
Pearl Lindell
Bjorn Sturlaugson
Ganaliel Thomasson
Nellie Tewksbury
Winnimark Tewksbury
Thomas Wright
Bessie Wright

Lydia Busch
George Bush
Irvin Hanson
Gina Larson
Albert Lewis
Martin Severson
Berthel Johnson
Thelma Strommen
Oscar Olson

1929

Alice Bassingthwaite
Frank Bassingthwaite
Esther Berg
Hamilton Berg
Ruby Clemetson
Elsie Davidson
Effie Einarson
Maren Evenson
Kenneth Ferguson
Dorothy Ford
Ida Foyen
Helmer Grotte
John Hamre
Charles Holler
Vera Hodgins
Gladys Hogfuss
Olaf Johnson
Wanda Johnson
Kathryn Knutson
Curtis Kohnen
Alice Larson
Amalia Larson
Ernest Larson
Mabel Larson
Norman Larson
Ralph Lawson
Amelia Lutovsky
Petrina Magnusson
Melvin Hobbs
Ingvald Moe
Ralph Nasinec
Harry Oaks
Margaret Ohnstead
Albert Parke
Johanna Pederson
Alice Rustan
Esther Starkson
Marie Strelow
Vernon Stuart
Edwin Swensrud
Larus Thomasson
Lyle Voge
Oalf Walsted
Laura Warner
Galdys Martin
Pauline Westphal
Wilson Bell
Norman Brunsvold
Dorothea Dencker
Edmund Gullickson
Stephen Johanneson
Bickford Hobbs
Henry Johnson

Ernest Malo
Eugene O'Keefe
Esther Olson
Arvin Parkins
Marion Simmons
Fred White
Verne Larson
Hazel Johnson

1930

Margaret Almen
Kermit Berg
Palmer Boe
Arni Bjornson
Silas Bjorg
Elsie Birk
Gina Brunsvold
Amy Breidfjord
Anna Christianson
Howard Cree
Mary Nancy Dike
Freda Einarson
Verna Feldman
Nema Flint
Norabella Flint
Nellie Gillespie
Ruth Gillespie
Gloria Grieve
Ethel Grove
Kenneth Hamilton
Hiram Hamre
Alvin Herda
Steindar Herman
Bernice Holmes
Helen Johnson
Wilford Johnson
John Karel
Myrtle Larson
George Lee

Frank Risky
Ernest Lein
Margaret Letzring
Eva Lindell
Vernon Marifjeren
Bjorn Melstad
Sigurd Melstad
Marion Miller
Alice Nelson
Fred Ormiston
George Ormiston
Ethel Orstad
Ingrid Ohnstad
B. Harold Pederson
John O'Keefe
Douglas Rasmussen
Margaret Samuelson
Gilbert Stevens
John Sturlaugson
Glenn Thompson
Bertha Thorson
Violet Thorsteinson
Vivian Wilcox
Erling Wollan

Fanny Williamson
Clarence Karel
Hertzell Larson
Charles Lebrun
Alvin Lovaasen
Thelma Moe
Viola Weinlaeder
Clara Momerak

1931

Amy Anderson
Willard Bell
John Bergman
Merle Blair
Palmer Bye
Vera Ferguson
Eleanor Grotte
Lloyd Haggberg
Harold Haggi
Chester Hobbs
Olaf Howe
Thelma Howe
Grace Hughs
Maxine Jackson
Antoinette Kadlovac
Agnes Kelner
Lloyd Larson
Thelma Larson
Josephine Lovaasen
Beatrice Newell
Sylvester Novak
Margaret Otten
Walter Pierson
Glenna Sander
Flloyd Sanger
Geneva Setness
Gudmunder Snyder
Alta Thorvilson
Borghild Wollan
Clarence Doner
Nellie Doner
Myrtle Helle
Emma Nygard
Everette Otto
Fred Otto
Milton Stevens
Olaf Tjonn

1932

Gertrude Bakke
Lorraine Bakke
Howard Berg
Olivia Berg
Borghild Boe
Mildred Borgeson
Edna Borgeson
Gladys Brodsho
George Busche
Thelmer Christianson
Irene Dencker
Muriel Ford
Mary Gillespie
Ivan Gudjonson
Margaret Gunnerson

Hazel Hanson
Arni Johanneson
Effie Larson
Lenore Nordby
Mildred Olafson
Fred Olafson
Anna Olson
Gladys Orstad
Ethel Gullickson
Alice Olson
Myrtle Olson
Margaret Pederson
Peder Pederson
Stanley Shaw
Steinberg Snyder
Winnfred Sundvor
Bernice Thompson
Lillian Trygg
Laura Thorleifson
Thelma Thorfinnson
Elsie Walter
Ardell Daley
Sigvald Howe
Andreas Helland
John Johanneson

Leonard Knoff
Harold Liddle
Lloyd Mathison
Wilbur McCauley
Clarice Nordby
Cacil Otto
Andrew Olson
Paul Parke
Chester Thompson
Steindor Thomasson
Mildred McCauley
Anna Olafson

*denotes transfer from
Park River High School)

1933

Edith Arason
Lorraine Cost
*Alyce Gillespie
Laverne Larter
*Inez Thompson
Charlotte Wright
Sherman Dunclee
Lawrence Liddle
Windred Stillwell
Wilbur Dearingier
Irene Orstad

1934

Irene Aker
Olga Aasand
*Rhoda Ann Bennett
Ruth Birk
Lavine Berg
*Signe Brandt
Marjorie Campbell



One Of The First FFA Bus Trips 1934

Helen Connor
George Cochran
Evangeline Disselbret
Elin Erlandson
Idamae Flint
Harry Ferguson
Albert Gillespie
Effie Gillespie
Fred Goldstone
Eunice Hanson
Arnold Hove
Adeline Ivesdal
*David Lawson
*Myrtle Meagher
*Roy Neste
Lucille O'Brien
*Donah Olson
Marvel Orstad
*Ferne Peck
Arlene Rocksvold

*Ruby Parke
Mabel Rustan
Anna Rustan
*Wallace Severson
Hazel Sander
Selina Sonderson
Irene Thompson
Avis Tallackson
Gwendolyn Willer
Alice Amundson
Duncan Gillespie
Adolph Winther
Short Course Graduates 1934
Sherman Duncklee
Winfred Stillwell
Wilbur Dearing
Elwood Kemp
Lawrence Liddle
David Ford
Elton Larson



1934 ANNUAL STAFF

Back Row: Advisor, Dorothy Clark, Roy Neste, Fred Goldstone, Inez Thompson, Myrtle Meagher

Front Row: Arlene Rocksvold, Ruby Thompson, George Cochran, David Lawson, Marvel Orstad, Evelyn Larson

1935

Virginia Almen
*John Arnot
Florice Bakke
Vernon Botsford
*Helen Brandt
Otto Berg
Arden Burbidge
Gladys Carlson
*Florence Campbell
*Nadine Carlen
*Neome Clemetson
*Dorothy Dobmeier
George Dike
Inez Erickson
Orbin Erickson
Torfin Evenson
*Mildred Ferguson
Lilly Geir
Alma Grove
Catherine Hankey
Annie Hodny
Harold Hylden
Lyman Jorgenson
Hazel Jergenson
Esther Jergenson
Harris Klungness
Oscar Laaveg
Marie Larson
Viola Larson
Floyd Lein
Muriel Lien
*Harriet Masloski
William Mutz
*Ruth O'Brien
Selmer Olson
Gudrun Olson
Ivan Otto
*Delores Pleasnor
*Robert Plunkett
Mae Rollefstad
Ruby Thompson
Donald Thompson
*Anna Fay Weed
Olaf Winther
Robert Colwell
Imogene Eikenberry
Violet Haldorson
Eunice Ottum

Short Course Graduates 1935

Paul Almen
Melvin Lovaasen
Lloyd Rustan

1936

Norma Anderson
*Marie Bennington
Bayda Borgeson
Selmer Bornholdt
Hazel Creighton
*Thelma Dahl
Elmo Ellingson

Carl Erlandson
Ida Erlandson
Clayton Everson
*Florence Ferguson
Kenneth Ford
Mildred Gillespie
Guida Hanson
Vivian Hanson
Alice Hillestad
Guilda Horgdal
Beatrice Hultin
*Victor Hultstrand
Frances Irvine
Ruth Isaacson
*Richard Johanson
*Kathryn Kenney
*Gorman King
Vera Kowalski
*Aldyce Larson
Pearl Larter
Robert Long
Marion McKay
Jessie Miller
Herman Magnusson
Lloyd Nygard
Daniel Pederson
Louise Pederson
Ruby Schrank
Maxine Stavee
Martha Stevens
Bernice Thompson
Opal Thompson
Adeline Walstad
Kathryn Wick
Beatrice Wilcox
Elmer Winther
Thelma Winther
Virgil Barta
Arthur Foerster
Marvin Gislason
Orin Knudson
Vernon Lewis
Edwin Olson
Olivia Larson
*Duane Campbell
Clayton Ratliff
*Vernon Erickson

1937

Beulah Ballantine
Adeline Bennington
Charles Bessire
Iva Birk
Esther Borge
Mabel Borgeson
Robert Brown
Juanita Byars
Ethel Cudmore
Carol Ellingson
Margaret Finneseth
Martha Flaten
Margaret Foerster
Vivian Hall
Violet Hallgrimson



Class of 1937

Joy Hanson
Mary Hylden
Margaret Ingulsrud
Donald Irvine
Florence Jenson
Rudolph Jenson
Clinton Johansen
Verna Johnson
Welden Johnston
Ellen Johanson
Alpha Kjelland
John Kristjanson
Melvin Lawson
Linea Laaveg
Edith Larson
Phyllis Larson
Marvel Levin
Ethel Liddle
Delwin Liddle
Elmer Lovaasen

Benda Winther
Johnnie Olason
Bennie Olson
Oscar Blegen

1938

Willard Anderson
James Axvig
Howard Brateng
Robert Brett
Duane Chapman
Ruth Dahl
Dale Dalby
Everett Dazell
Dan Dougherty
Aileen Folsom
Alex Ford
Myrtle Gilbertson
James Grieve
Carl Hankey
Ragna Haslekaas



Class of 1938

Norence Lovaasen
Kathryn Madland
Ruby Madland
James McCauley
Dean Miller
Elsie Otto
Verna Pleasnor
Elvina Rustan
Evelyn Rustan
Thelma Sander
Clinton Strong
Clarence Swanson
Dorothy Thompson
Helen Trygg
Hazel Walstad
Irene Weed

Orven Hillestad
Frances Hylden
Clara Ivesdal
Ann Jacobsen
Kenneth Johansen
Sigurjon Johanneson
Martha Johnson
Murray King
Irene Knutson
Helen Klunngness
Fern Landsborough
Orville Lien
Russell Lien
Curtis Levin
Dorothy Lewis
Glen Liddle

Marion Lindgren
Harvey Lykken
Gerald McKay
Goergia Maize
Edith Meagher
Ione Midgarden
Avis Midgarden
Maxine Moffett
Clifford Nygaard
Gordon Olson
Harold Peoples
Marie Rocksvold
Robert Shafer
Oswald Stautz
Loren Stautz
Betty Tallackson
Dennis Thompson
Arnold Troftgruben
Harding Tverberg
Annie Vold
Kenneth Williams
Lila Walstad
Thomas Birk
Barney Bjornson
Glen Borge
Oliver Hove
Ivan Knudson
Irene Moen
Odin Springen
Neil Vold
Ardell Johnson
Ludvig W. Johnson

1939

Aida Lou Bateman
Alvin Berkland
Lloyd Best
John Bornholdt
Florence Carlson
Helen Carpenter
Corrine Chapman
Frances Daley
Esther Evenson
Richard Ereth
Margaret Ferguson
John Fitzpatrick
Mary Fitzpatrick
Iona Flint
Glen Ford
Margaret Gillespie

Evelyn Grovem
Maxine Halvorson
Sheila Halvorson
Orville Hammond
Allyn Hanson
Jean Holwerda
Lenore Hulstrand
Dorothy Ingulsrud
Allerd Johnson
Marion Kerr
Doris Kluxdal
Margaret Kowalski
John Kubat
Allen Lewis
Lloyd Liddle
Edythe Lien
Esther Lien
Gladys Lovaasen
June McEachern
Patrick O'Brien
Henry Ouradnik
Kathryn Overby
Lucille Pariseau
Dorothy Parke
Leland Ramsey
Norma Service
Hubert Strong
Henrietta Studney
Evelyn Thordarson
Wallace Thompson
Gordon Twedt
Robert Woods
Jevon Aasand
Conrad Carlson
Mildred Ducklee
Lloyd Erickson
Richard Herman
Frank Houser
Ingdolph Johnson
Clarence Loken
Helgi Thorlakson

1940

Harold Anderson
Herbert Anderson
Kermit Axvig
Fred Baty
Virginia Bennett
Sophie Berg
Margaret Borgeson



1939

Margaret Brett
Robert Bygland
Raymond Capouch
Dorothy Cole
Harvey Cole
Harold Delvo
Betty Dougherty
Eugene Eastman
Allen Flaten
Mike Gise

Maxine Mauritsen
Paul Meberg
Alice Olson
Ralph Pederson
Sylvia Phair
LaVerne Rinde
Rosella Sandvig
John Smith
William Spornitz
Alice Springen



1940

Curtis Gustafson
Emma Gustafson
Czar Hartzelle
Marjorie Huffman
Bethel Ingulsrud
Elmer Iverson
Robert Johnson
Howard Johnson
Robert Kelner
Daly King
Lloyd Kotaska
Joseph Laaveg
Virginia Landsborough
Neil Larson
Alice Liddle
Eugene Loftsgard
Anthonette Long
Omer McConnachie
Weldon Maize
Gordon Malm
Myrle Jane Marifjeren
William Marifjeren

Rudolph Swanson
Ella Mae Whitehead
Benjamin Winther
Joseph Winther
Joseph Yellowhammer
Harry Carson
Allen Duncklee
Alvin Magnusson
James Offerdahl
Myrtle Puppe
Opal Ratliff
Ernest Skjerven
Gilbert Wang
John Whitehead
Pearl Larson
Harvey Skjerven

1941

Viva Aker
Eleanor Anton
Alfred Austin
Ruth Bennington



Bill Spornitz, Bob Kelner, Jack Lutjen, Blair Chapman, Maxine Mauritsen, Virginia Smith, Annie Lawson, Antonette Long



1941

Lorraine Bina
Ellen Borgeson
Helen Burris
Herman Capouch
Blair Chapman
Marjorie Cross
Shirley Cross

Helen Delvo
Marvin Drevecky
Laddie Dvorak
Bernice Everson
Robert Flaten
Francis Flynn
Arthur Haas
Joseph Hamers
Arles Henkel
Grace Hoenke
Norma Johansen
Dorothy Kennedy
Donald Kerr
Dennis Knutson
Lawrence Larson
Lydia Larson
Annie Lawson
Margaret Lien
Harvey Loftsgard
Hazel Lovaasen
Hilmer Malm
David U Meberg
June Nickolay
Bertel Olson
Eleanor Olson
Ruby Olson
Leonard Parke
Patricia Rengle
Leona Rocksvold
Harvey Schumacher
William Skjerven
Virginia Smith
Sheldon Strong
Ernest Thompson
Roland Timian
Beryl Walters
Evelyn Walters
Eleanor Willer
Lawrence Woehl
Alyda Moen
Evelyn Roterrud

1942

Helen Amundson
Joseph Anderson
Evelyn Berg
Dixon Best
Adele Bjornstad
Warren Borgeson
Grace Carlen
Lyla Carlson
Marion Charon
Violet Charon
Selma Christianson
Evelyn Cole
Quinten Daley
Robert Deardurff
Wallace Drevecky
Irene Engh
Arlene Engquist
Robert Erickson
Olaf Evenson
Duane Flaten
William Gegleman
Vernon Gillespie
Ardella Offerdahl
Laverne Staples
Phyllis Goodoin
John Demerest Halberg
Leonard Hankey
Dalton Hardy
Jean Harris
Ardith Hovland
Myron Hylden
Eleanor Ingulsrud
Alvin Jasmer
Douglas Kinsela
Glenna Kjelland
Arthur Knutson
Hazel Kvelstad
Rhoda Levin
Jay Lewis
Jean Lewis
Grace Liddle
June Magnusson
Kenneth Mattson
George McLaughlin
Shirley McLaughlin
Margrete Meberg

Olive Miller
Joyce Morrow
Martha Norby
Doris Oaks
Harvey Parke
Vera Phair
Desmond Ramsey
Lester Ramsey
Raymond Rocksvold
Helen Mae Schumacher
Ruth Setterstrom
Ambrose Spoonland
Wayne Tainter
Ross Tallackson
Edna Thompson
Percy Wlastad
Cecil French
Mildred Moen
George Novak

1943

Roland Bateman
Irene Bena
Wesley Borgeson
Mary Colwell
LaMae Daley
Helen Dencker
Donna Dougherty
Thomas Dougherty
Floyd Engh
Lenore Engquist
Arthur Flaten
Donald Flaten
Helen Flynn
Luverne Hall
Adell Hankey
Dorothy Hanson
Lee Harris
Dean Hillestad
Ethel Hovland
Dorothy Hylden
Robert Irvine
Lillian Jasmer
Lois Johnson
Winifred Kelner
Reginald Kerr
Don Kinsala
Sylvia Kjos
Irene Larson
Grace Lien
Wanda Lien
Clara Lillehaugen
Lloyd Linstad
Donald McKay
Gail Mauritsen
Harriet McCauley
Goerge Moen
Betty Lou Moffett
Margaret Ann Momerak

Avis Orstad
Elaine Orstad
Philip Penas

Marietta Peterka
Doris Spoonland
Harvey Tallackson
Frances Whitehead
John Wilson
Evelyn Carpenter
Selma Hanson
Dorothy Werner

1944

Jeanne Bennington
Thelma Berg
Delores Borge
Bernard Capouch
Harlan Charon
George Delling

Lorna Eyolfson
Phyllis Fail
Erna Flaten
Irwin Flaten
John Flaten
Donald Flint
Mary Ford
Rebecca Gemmill
Lillian Gillespie
Lionel Grinter
Gordon Greenwood
Neil Gustafson
Dolores Hall
Jean Hankey
Lucille Hankey
Olgar Ingulsrud
June Jacobsen
Lucille Jensen
Alice Jorgenson
Milton Kjelland
Lorraine Kjos

Irene Landsborough
Geraldine Landsborough
Gene Larson
Harry Larson
Laurel Loftsgard
Mae Lohse
Richard Lovcik
Beverly McEachern
Ina Claire Malde
Alice Meberg
Glenn Moen
Ordean Oen
Marjorie Onstad
Ernest Parke
Virginia Ramsey
Ellamay Roterud
Doris Setterstrom
Donna Lou Skjervén
Florence Snaza
Mayme Sobolik
Delores Staven
Beryl Strong
Elaine Sundvor
Faye Tallackson
Betty Thompson
Harlan Troftgruben
Kenneth Walker



Class of 1944

Glenna Mae Walstad
Patricia Weed
Lyle Willer
Margaret Anderson
Helen Bellerud
Viola Morstad
Everett Schumacher

1945

Max Adams
Naomi Best
Alice Bina
Esther Borgeson
Ralph Borgeson
Neal Bradburn
Michael Brown

Dorothy Gustafson
Duane Hanson
Wilma Jasmer
Thomas Kelly
Geraldine Kelner
Norma McLaughlin
Marlis Malde
Leona Mauritsen
Harold Maxwell
Hilliard Maxwell

Tom (Meagher) Marr
Leo Middendorf
Martha Moen
Lawrence Penas



Class of 1945

Beatrice Capouch
Luella Charon
Willane Cole
William Cole
Jean Colwell
Clarence Drtina
Marie Dvorak
Wanda Flail
Roald Flaten
Ray Foerster
Eleanor Gaarder

Edythe Phair
Carol Ann Rinde
Eunice Rockne
Ray Ramsey
Edvina Roterud
Lyle Severson
Shirley Staven
Delores Tesmer
John Tillet
Ramona Walls

1946

Ilah Akre
Lennart Almen
Albert Lee Bennington
Henrietta Bina
Marilyn Boe
John Bures
LaRae Clairmont
Clarice Daley
Donald Dobmeier
Lois Flint
Harlan Ford
Orville Gullingsrud
Duane Hylden
Dorothy Johnson
Bernice Kjelland
Alice Kalgard
Harriet Knutson
Dorothy Kovarik
James Levin
Charles Lewis
Doris Liddle
Alfred Lindell
Neil Moen
Luella Olson
Marian Orstad
Betty Spornitz
Gordon Ramsey
Marvin Rinde
Chester Thompson
June Veralrud
Frances Weed
Norman Winther
Vernon Charon

1947

Doris Anderson
Alfred Armstrong
Lorraine Bena
Beverly Borg
Helen Borge
Janice Brett
Harriet Christianson
Donald Clairmont

Glenn Cudmore
Betty Daley
Carol Erickson
Floyd Fail
Nema Everson
Loretta Ferguson
Betty Ann Flaten
Allen Flint
Frances Foerster
Phil Franze
Marvin Flaten
Edith Froiland
Edmund Gaarder
Ione Groven
Shirley Hagen
J. Deane Hardy
Lorna Jean Harris
Kenneth Haugen
Jual Hurtt
Glenn Hodous
Donald Hylden
Inez Jasmer
Ruth Larson
Mavis Levin
Carol Lindell
Robert Lovaasen
Donald Lovcik
Richard Lunden
Shirley McPherson
Mary Jean Meagher
Lois Meier
Almira Moen
Valberg Moen
Marion Oaks
Clarence Parke
Vera Penas
Theresa Peterka
Delores Puppe
Lowell Rasmusson
Crystal Severson
Henry Skorheim
Gordon Solseng
Joyce Spoonland
Ada Lou Sundvor
Arlene Williams

Doris Jean White
Marion Zahradka

1948

Jerome Berg
Harriet Capouch
Marion Chally
Delphine Charon
Leonard Clark
Myron Clemetson
Phyllis Crandall
Levern Dahl
Lois Dalzell
Wallace Darling
Joanne Eyolfson
Doris Flaten
Dorothy Flaten
Edith Ford
Doris Gaarder
Rodger Gaarder
Richard Goetz
Fredolph Haas
Paul Hankey
Harold Hanson
Inez Hefta
Julian Kiedrowski
Lowell Kjenstad
Earl Larson
Dorothy Lindell
Ordean Lofthus
Ruth Loftsgard
Gerald Longtin
Allyn Lundeen
Colleen Magnusson
Earl Marifjeren
James McDonald
Lillian Momerak
Wallace Momerak
Marvin Morstad
Richard Nelson
Lee Neste
Donald Onstad
Harvey Olsen
LaVaughn Olson
Elmer O'Sell
Hannah Petterson
David Praska
Walter Ramsey
Rosemary Rengle

Keith Rinde
Richard Rinde
Leonard Ruzicka
Pat Scheving
Dorothy Sharpe
Willard Stenerson
Darly Strong
Lorraine Swenson
Robert Thompson
Mildred Veralrud
George Walstad
Keith Boe
Merle Onstad

1949

Mary Ann Adams
Donna Akre
Doris Akre
Darrell Anderson
Elmo Anderson
Dorothy Bena
Erlene Biliske
Marvin Borgeson
Donna Brown
Albert Capouch
Yvonne Chapman
Dennis Cole
Thomas Colwell
Robert Dahl
Leonard Dalzell
Betty Lou Delvo
Wayne Drevecky
Gladys Dub
Gene Estad
Harold Flaten
Mary Ann Greicar
Vernice Groven
Harold Herman
Donley Hosna
Constance Irvine
Gayette Junkins
Anna Mae Kalgard
Donald Knudson
Marilyn Lien
Harry Linstad
Robert Longtin
Jean Lovaasen
Joan Magnusson
Jane Martin
Betty Maxwell
Harold Moe
Harvey Momerak
Dennis Olson
Kenneth Olson
Jackie Parke
Kenneth Ramsey
Wallace Rasmusson
John Sandgren
Glenn Severson
Harold Schlenk
Donna Shortridge
Doris Tallackson
Wayne Tesmer
Ronald Thordarson
Alice Woolridge
Julia Martin

1950

Orlyn Berg
Glenn Brett
Jack Brett
Arne Christianson
Norma Cole
Carol Dahl
Helen Dahl
Joyce Daley
Earl Erickson



Class of 1947

Earl Gaarder
 Erwin Goschke
 Bennie Greicar
 Lee Anne Greicar
 Imogene Hoesl
 Donald Hooley
 Marvin Hoverson
 Evelyn Johnson
 Kenneth "Bing" Knutson
 Philip Landeis
 Clinton Lewis
 Shirley Lien
 Marion Meberg
 Eleanor Momerak
 Paul Nilson
 Arlene Novak
 Carol Onstad
 Donald Orstad
 Dean Parke
 Alice Jean Parker
 Jennifer Penas
 Betty Phair
 Diana Ramsey
 Marilyn Rinde
 Mylo Samuelson
 Leatrice Skjerven
 Laverne Staven
 Lois Staven
 Marilyn Torgerson
 Marlys Troftgruben
 Wayne Walstad
 Timothy Vavrosky
 Elton Veralrud

1951

Jerome Anderson
 Kathryn Bena
 Earl Berger
 Elizabeth Bena
 Dagne Borge
 David Borge
 Donald Boe
 Dean Brown
 Robert Capouch
 Leo Clairmont
 Norman Cole
 Jack Darling
 Leo Dub
 Betty Erickson
 Marcelline Erickson
 Joy Estad
 Karen Eyolfson
 John Ferguson
 Marlis Frovarp
 Thelma Frovarp
 Verna Frovarp
 Gordon Gemmill
 Gene Gaarder
 Stanley Gendreau
 Lois Greicar
 Duane Gustafson
 Lyle Hardy
 David Hatley
 Alda Hoesl

Donna Johnson
 Eleanor Johnson
 Marion Johnson
 Rossford Johnson
 Lorraine Kalgard
 Mary Jane Kalgard
 Shirley Larson
 Joyce Lepire
 Donna Levin
 Robert Lewis
 Marilyn Lindgren
 William Loftus
 Dwight Longtin
 Gary Longtin
 Lois McDonald
 Delores McPherson
 John Mattson
 Carl Nilson
 Mary Rita Novak
 Raymond Onstad
 Glenn Penas
 Robert Peterson
 Vernon Peterson
 Ernest Ramsey
 Phyllis Ramsey
 John Rockne Jr.
 Kenneth Rye
 Dwayne Smith
 Scott Lee Stull
 Art Tallackson Jr.
 Claude Tesmer
 Emmett Thompson
 Ruth Thompson
 Robert Williams
 Galdys Zahradka
 Coral White

1952

Floyd Askim
 Carol Berg
 Mary Brown
 Evon Capouch
 Mary Ann Capouch
 Carol Danielson
 Larry Darling
 Everett Dibble
 Roland Flint
 Margie Folsen
 Robert Fraser
 Glenn Gilleshammer
 Dale Hardy
 Billy Hardy
 Kay Hardy
 Marie Hartje
 Doris Hawkinson
 Jean Johnson
 Richard Kelner
 Edna Kjenstad
 Barbara Knudson
 Dennis Knutson
 Larry Knutson
 Anna Mae Lovcik
 Dale Longtin
 Robert McDonald
 Lona Malde

Allyn Marifjeren
 Gladys Markel
 Joan Meagher
 Ronald Monson
 Gloria Mosolf
 Cyril Narloch
 Darrell O'Connell
 Larry O'Keefe
 Marie Radliff
 Jacqueline Rengle
 Monica Schlenk
 Oris Seilstad
 Dennis Severson
 Jack Shortridge
 Marlene Sobolik
 Delores Walstad
 Marjorie Widme
 George Williams
 Harold Sundvor
 Hazel Swenson
 Audrey Severson
 Larry Gorder

1953

Harlan Anderson
 Quinten Argetsinger
 Donovan Berger
 Geneva Bondy
 Jean Erickson
 John Ferguson
 Amos Flaten
 Ander Flaten
 Murlan Frovarp
 Marian D. Hall
 John Hankey
 Winslow Helt
 Esther Herman
 Owen Hughes
 Donna Hultstrand
 Frances Hurtt
 Joyce Jarus
 June Jarus
 Myron Kalgard
 John Kelly
 Larry Larson
 Elaine Lepire
 Marion Listopad
 Eleanor Loftsgard
 Joe Lovcik
 James McPherson
 Gail Madland
 Beverly Magnusson
 Beverly Markholt
 Marilyn Midgarden
 Mark Midgarden
 Pete Midgarden
 Alice Monson
 Ronald Nelson
 Darrell Nottestad
 Morgan Olson
 James Parke
 John Paulson
 Kenneth Radliff

Donald Ramsey
 Audrey Schlenk
 Yvonne Severson
 Robert Skjerven
 Adolph Sobolik Jr.
 David Sobolik
 Lois Stenerson
 James Stewart
 Allen Strand
 Gerald Svir
 Ruth Tallackson
 Kenneth Thompson
 John Trygg
 Delores Woolridge

1954

Seymour Adsem
 Antoinette Brown
 Ernest Capouch
 Franklin Charon
 Barbara Cole
 Roberta Cowger
 Allerd Dahl
 Allen Dahl
 Bill Darling
 Delores DeMaine
 Clemet Dub
 Lila Ferguson
 David Flint
 Willard Frovarp
 Dorothy Gillespie
 Duane Gorder
 Darlene Grove
 Robert Hanson
 James Hobbs
 Earline Johnson
 Glorianna Johnson
 Margaret Jurgens
 James Kelly
 Larry Klindtworth
 Marie Kouba
 Donah Lewis
 Arlen Madland
 Dorothy Mattson
 Marino Melstad
 Doris Midgarden
 Robert Midgarden
 Ordean Momerak
 Mavis Mosolf
 Janice Novak
 Glenn Oen
 Doris Onstad
 Lloyd Papenfuss
 Elaine Pederson
 Clinton Penas
 Josephine Pesek
 Carla Peterson
 Elda Peterson
 Marion Russum
 Joel Sehart
 Arne Severson
 Lorraine Shaw
 Robert Thorson
 Marion Walstad

1955

Jo Anne Bena
Ronald Berger
Janet Bischoff
Betty Borge
Gene Busch
Joann Christianson
Anna Jane Dahl
Ernest Dahl
Judy Flaten
Orvin Fingarson
Jack Fleck
Helen Flint
Carol Grovom
Donald Hagen
Robert Herzog
Joann Houser
Gladwin Jensen
Lloyd Johnson
Robert Johnson
Virginia Kenney
Dennis Larson
Tony Leonard
Delores Lepire
Joey Listopad
Duane Luithle
Eloise Lunde
Donald McKenzie
Larry Maier
Margaret Murray
LaVerne Oen
Gerald O'Keefe
Carol Peterson
Henry Schufletowski Jr.
Vernon Seboe
Richard Skjerven
Margaret Smith
Bernard Sundeen
Lorraine Svir
Marvin Onstad
Russell Midgarden

1956

Jerome Axvig
Maynard Axvig
Lyle Bina
Marlene Bjerneby
Carol Ann Braund
Jack Brown
Bertha Capouch
Jeanne Dahl
Barbara Dencker
Wally Edwards
Joyce Espelien
James Fleck
Jack Frovarp
Loretta Frovarp
Leanne Gunstenson
Barbara Helt
Diana Hennessey
Marion Hodny
Floyd Hunking
Joel Johnson

James Langerud
Richard Lee
Ivonne Lindell
Corinne Lunde
Odrey Madland
Donna Morstad
Doris Novak
Ellen Novak
James O'Keefe
Faye Pederson
Paul Peoples
Delaine Peterson
Gerald Pohanka
Janice Porter
Clark Penas
Gerald Puppe
Nora Severson
Lucy Sobolik
Camille Thiele
Gerald Thompson
Margaret Thordarson
Eugene Troftgruben

1957

Allen Berg
Duane Bischoff
Francis Bures
Alice Capouch
Cecil Chally
Judith Dencker
Patricia Dub
Doris Elke
Dennis Erickson
Lorna Espelien
Ronald Grove
Carol Hajicek
Arlen Gunstenson
Curtis Hall
James Hanley
Russel Hanson
Dick Hardy
Grace Hell
Charles Hodek
Carol Johnson
Jean Johnson
Lorn Johnson
Patricia Jurgens
William Kingsbury
Don Knutson
Gregory Korczak
Glenn Langerud
Judy Maier
Ruth Meberg
Marjorie Midgarden
Jim Midgarden
Keith Moe
Marvel Morstad
Nola McDonald
Janet Oen
Kenneth Olafson
Harlan Papenfuss
Jean Peoples
Joan Peoples

Ronald Rinde
Dennis Risky
Niomi Rohn
Marlene Rosvold
Doris Schufletowski
Patricia Schufletowski
Donald Schuster
Barton Severson
Marlene Severson
Janice Steiger
Lillian Strand
Mayme Svir
Ardis Torfin
Jean Veralrud
Dean Walberg
Joseph Zahradka

1958

Joanne Anderson
Connie Brandt
James Brandt
Rodney Busch
Ronie Capp
Clarie Christianson
Richard Cowger
Jerome Englerth
Richard Erickson
Ellen Espelien
Orvin Espelien
Alva Frovarp
Delaine Frovarp
Patricia Frovarp
Bill Funk
Donald Gerth
Edwin Grabanski
Daniel Hennessey
Janet Hobbs
John Hobbs
Ronald Hunking
Joseph Hodek
Betty Hurtt
Shirley Jagow
Ramona Johnson
William Kenney
Lucille Korynta
Harlan Larson
Dorothy Lovcik
Gary McLaughlin
Lee Ann Machovsky
Paul Midgarden
Jim Miller
Bob Miller
Merlyn Moe
James Mosolf
Yvonne Nickolay
Jim O'Regan
Carrie Penas
Gladys Peterson
Alyce Puppe
Shirley Ramsey
Harold Severson
Ruth Sisson
Marilyn Smestad
Doris Stevens

Carol Stull
Duane Sturlaugson
Libbie Svir
Becky Thorson
Paul Wilkes
Barbara Crosby
Carol Johnson
Jeanne Monson

1959

Eldon Anderson
Eunice Axvig
Dennis Bjornson
Richard Clemenson
Gayle Dau
Dan Felt
Janice Gillespie
Conrad Hall
Robert Haselmo
Shirley Helt
Jim Holmes
Steven Hotten
Alden Hultin
Duane Iverson
Judy Johnson
Bonnie Jorstad
Larry Lewis
Janice Lien
James Loughhead
Clara Lovaasen
Joe McKenzie
David Mandt
John Markholt
Susan Meagher
Waldemar Melstad
Mary Ann Monson
Dennis Morstad
Lawrence Nygren
Norman Paulson
Betty Peoples
Kenneth Porter
James Rome
James Schlenk
Edith Severson
Donald Shaw
Rachel Sisson
Jack Swanson
Judy Sylvester
Leona Troftgruben
Carol Turner
Ronald Unke

1960

Marlene Anderson
Judy Bredeson
Tom Brown
Leona Bruce
Don Budish
Joseph Charon
Jeanne Clemetson
Adele Cudmore
John Daley
Elaine Dub
Lee Ann Dube

Douglas Folden
Janice Frovarp
Tom Grove
Franklin Hajicek
Robert Halcrow
Lynnette Hanson
Gary Hove
Karen Jergenson
Larry Johnson
Elroy Kjelland
Adrienne Korynta
Marvin Laaveg
David Larson
Ronald Lee
Joel Lindell
Donald Lovaasen
Nancy Mahrer
Kathy Maier
Carson Martin
Dale Monsebroten
Mary Ann Nottestad
Charles Novak
Herman Novak
Richard Oen
Wilma Olafson
Allan Orsund
Ray Parnell
Judy Pederson
Laddie Pic
Gary Puppe
Harvey Puppe
Rosalind Rinde
Georgia Rustan
Connie Schanilec
Phillip Setness
Ben Severson
Julianne Smestad
Helen Smith
Mareidith Snyder
Rodney Tanke
Kathy Thorleifson
Cheryl Troftgruben
John Vorachek
Karen Warren
Joe Zahradka
Judy Cash

1961

Anna Marie Almen
Leroy Anderson
Ross Anderson
Addie Axvig
Darlene Bakken
John Berdahl
Lewis Bergevin
Clarence Boettger
Jerry Bruce
Phyllis Bruce
Lawrence Budish
Ronald Burger
Mary Cowger
Eugene Cramton
Phyllis Dunclee
Charlotte Gorde

Paul Haug
Sherri Herres
Pearl Hogfoss
Vernon Houser
Margaret Lien
Lynnette Lindgren
JoAnn Loughead
David Mahrer
Diane Mandt
Joel Midgarden
Eleanor Murray
Sigrid Myrdal
Mavis Myrvik
Brenda Neste
Joyce Oak
Jay Olson
Richard Olson
Allen Redmann
Kathleen Setness
Ray Steiger
Helen Svir
Shirley Swartz
Gary Vorachek
Thelma Walberg
Pauline Walstad
Michael Wicks

1962

Michael Baumann
Grace Bell
Arlis Bischoff
Marlene Boettger
Joan Brandt
Lenora Burger
Daniel Dub
Larry Englerth
Judith Gilbert
Janet Hall
Leslie Hannesson
Harold Harris
Mary Lou Hobbs
Wayne Hove
Linda Hunking
Linda Laaveg
Terry Larson
Verne Larson
Blair Lindgren
Guy Lindgren
Richard Lutovsky
Paul Mandt
Lynda Montague
Gerald Nelson
Linda Nottestad
Sheryl Owens
Yvonne Peterson
Suzette Piltingsrud
Glen Porter
Victoria Rohn
Janice Schildberger
Joanne Schildberger
Marie Schildberger
Phyllis Setness
Carol Silliman

Ivan Sobolik
Sharie Stromli
Lloyd Swenson
Kathleen Switzer
Margie Thompson
Warren White

1963

David Baumann
Dianne Baumann
Terril Borgeson
John Capp
Audrey Cowger
Lee Cudmore
Dorothy Dub
Bob Erlandson
Lois Hanson
Mary Hickey
Verne Hornbaker
Marvin Houser
Gayle Hove
Richard D. Johnson
Richard G. Johnson
Guy King
Duane Korynta
Dennis Kovarik
Dianne Lovaasen
Alan Lukes
Alan Mahrer
Pam Maier
Nancy Meagher
Pam Middleton
Dikka Moen
Leonard Momerak
Ann Monsebroten
John Myrdal
Alan Oak
Carol Olson
Larry Pohanka
Linda Redmann
Richard Schanilec
Louis Schufletowski
John Shaw
Ronald Sherek
Sharon Stull
Doug Wessels

1964

Elaine Amundson
Rebecca Amstrup
Ronald Barta
Steven Berntsen
Janie Borgeson
Maureen Brandt
Larry Clemetson
Janice Clemenson
Bill Daley
Scott Dau
Leslie Dvorak
Patricia Ford
Janice Gilbert
Glenn Halvorson
David Hanson

Sharon Hanson
Larry Houser
Dale Hultin
Kay Jacobsen
Larry Jasmer
Richard O. Johnson
Carol Karas
Keith Kjelland
Duane Kram
Gerald Langley
John Larson
Sandra Lee
Gary Lien
Arllys Lindgren
Jery Lindell
Darryl Lutovsky
Gemma Lutovsky
Marlys Moen
Larry Mastre
Neil Midgarden
Carol Nappen
Lowell Oak
Dennis Odden
Milton Olsen
Wayne Peterson
Gloria Pic
Linda Stromberg
Donald Walstad
Thomas Zidon

1965

Marilyn Alvestad
Claude Barrie
Gerald Baumann
Warren Bogert
Bruce Bork
Albert Wayne Bruce
Suzanne Chapman
David Cicha
Jerry Clemetson
James Daley
Allen Denault
Judith Dobmeier
Beverly Dvorak
Darrell Ellingson
Ellen Erlandson
Gregory Erovick
Arden Espelien
Terrence Evenson
David Gillespie
Joan Ann Gilles
Henry William Green
Enid Gutterud
Dennis Hall
Thomas Hall
Michael Hankey
Rosalie Heggen
Paul Hodney
Arnold Hanson
Diane Horgan
Dennis Jelinek
Margaret Jelinek
Audrey Jergenson
Lois Jill Johnson
Sharon Johnson

Dale Johnston
Lawrence Kenney
Orville Kjelland
Rose Marie Kovarik
Kathleen Laaveg
Diane Larson
James Larson
Michael Lien
Gary Loftsgard
Stuart Loftsgard
Barbara Lovaasen
Linda Miller
Gregory Moan
George Moen
Phyllis Monsebroten
Richard Orsund
Ann Piltingsrud
Marvin Pitcher
Elaine Samson
Phyllis Schanilec
Catherine Schuman
Wanda Setness
Donna Silliman
Donna Stevens
Sharold Stromli
William Suda
Lynda Tallackson
Bonnie Mohagen
Patricia Zidon

1966

Marlys Amundson
Donna Argetsinger
David Bina
Renee Bischoff
Joanne Bjerke
Lynda Brandt
Rebecca Burbidge
Jerome Daley
Katherine Daley
Virginia Ellingson
Susan Erovick
Mark Fjeld
Thomas Fite
Lawrence Foerster
Elna Haug
Mary Jane Heggen
Yvonne Houdek
Ronnie Houser
Carol Houska
Sterling Hunking
Wally Jensen
Wayne Johnson
David Laaveg
Barbara Lee
Sharon Lien
Sharon Lindgren
Michael Mahrer
Jerry Maier
David Meberg
Gaylin Moe
Richard Nason
Richard Nelson

Earlene Olson
John Peterka
Robert Peterson
Vivian Pitcher
Eugene Petrick
Harry Schildberger Jr.
David Skjerven
Ardis Staven
David Stromberg
John Sylvester
John Thiele
Paulette Winther
Mary Jean Zidon
Judy Berreth
Charlotte Horgan

1967

Robert Alvestad
Laverne Askim
Theodore Barta
Timothy Baumann
Stephen Berg
Maureen Borgeson
Stuart Brunsvold
Gary Budish
Sharon Carlson
Suzanne Clemetson
Jeanne Dobmeier
Marvin Dvorak
Deanna Ellingson
Carmen Espelien
Randall Flaten
Kathleen Foerster
Curtis Halvorson
Russell Halverson
Edith Hodek
David Hodny
Darlene Houser
Aaron Jelinek
Roger Johnson
Joseph Karas
Evelyn Kovarik
Francis Listopad
Jerry Loughhead
Connie Lutovsky
Richard Lien
Adele Mandt
Susan Mondry
Sandra Myrvik
Susan Myrvik
Joanne Olson
Shirley Orsund
LuJune Papenfuss
Dorothy Pierce
Eileen Pitcher
Linda Rey
DeDe Samson
Charlotte Setness
Eva Setness
Gary Setnes
Larry Simmons
Dawne Skjerven
Gary Sundberg
Tom Tallackson

Daniel Thompson
Mary Thompson
Katherine Wang
Karyn Waslaski
Carol Zidon

1968

Joan Bateman
Curtis Berg
Diane Carlson
Eunice Clemetson
Myrna Clemenson
Joanne Clemetson
Larry Cudmore
Daniel Daley
Patrick Daley
Carla Ellingson
Molly Ann Erickson
Karen Evenson
Marsha Fjeld
Janice Flaten
Rebecca Flaten
Kenneth Gillespie
Alice Gorde
Arthur G. Haas
Larry Hall
Diane Halvorson
Kay Hankey
Ann Harris
Darryl Hell
Billy Hobbs
Louise Hodny
Barbara Houdek
Carol Houdek
Ronnie Jasmer
Marlene Jergenson
Gary Johnson
Roger Johnson
Susan Johnson
Sean Kelly
John Kinsala
Joann Kjelland
Marlene Kjelland
Merry Beth Kjos
Bonnie Larson
Daniel Larson
Julie Larson
Stephen Larson
Rebecca Lien
Alayne Lindgren
Corrine Lindgren
Clarke Loftsgard
Dennis Markusen
Gayln Moen
Vicki Moffett
Judith Moen
Vera Myhre
Charles O'Regan
Nancy Ostenrude
Shirley Phelps
Jon Piltingsrud
Jack Piltingsrud
Charlotte Rustan
Danette Schanilec

Mervin Simon
Carol Stevens
Anna Mae Suda
Thomas Stromberg
Roger Svir
Robert Walker

1969

Diane Barrie
David Bateman
Gerald Bjornson
Lois Bjornson
Ronald Bjornson
Wanda Bogert
Maxine Brandt
Susan Brunsvold
Monica Burger
Bonnie Carlson
Celeste Chyle
Victoria Cicha
Don Daley
Richard Daley
James Dub
Rita Dvorak
Thomas Erovick
Deanna Evenson
Bradley Flaten
Cynthia Flaten
Ann Ford
Jane Ford
Sue Gunhus
Dena Hennessey
Duane Halvorson
Patricia Hankey
David Houdek
Gary Houska
Mark Hunter
Maren Hylden
Dorothy Johnson
Frank Kachena
Beverly Kotaska
Dayton Larson
Julianne Lewis
Robbie Lindell
Paul Lindgren
John Lovaasen
Melinda Lunde
Jean Mandt
Arne Meberg
Luther Meberg
Rolf Moan
Larry Mondry
Jeffrey Monsebroten
Richard Nappen
James Nelson
Robert Olsen
Barbara Porter
LeRoy Ramsey
Sheryl Samson
Betty Schildberger
Betty Silliman
Faye Simon
Loretta Suda
Debra Tallackson

Douglas Thompson
 Jack Thompson
 Linda Torfin
 Donald Wang
 Steven Winther

1970

Kenny Barta
 Duane Berg
 Barry Borgeson
 Ronnie Borgeson
 Bunny Bruce

Roger Carlson
 Clair Clemetson

Mary Coles
 Susan Cook
 Ruth Cowger
 Laura Cudmore
 Vicki Dobmeier
 Lorelei Eklund
 Gordon Erovick
 Pat Falter
 Glenn Flaten
 Peder Flaten III
 Lorna Ford
 Trudy Ford
 Faye Garnaas
 Kay Garnaas
 Judy Gunhus
 Robert Hankey
 Ervin Harlow
 Duane Hell
 Joel Hylden

Dale Jensen
 Don Jensen
 De Wayne Johnson
 Gary Johnson
 Jeanette Johnson
 Mary Ann Johnson
 Patricia Kachena
 Annette Kinsala
 Deborah Kram
 Joanne Larson
 Dick Larson
 Tom Larson
 Randy Lewis
 Lunette Lutovsky

Mary Manderud
 Kathy Moen
 Janice Monsebroten
 Neil Ostenrude
 Jill Pederson
 Charles Phelps
 David Schanilec
 Allerd Seboe
 Gary Seboe
 Audrey Setness
 Wayne Staven
 Lambert Svir
 Randall Svir
 John Zidon

1971

Cheryl Baumann
 Lynn Berg
 Sherry Berreth
 Dale Borgeson
 Echo Carlson
 Richard Clarens
 Patricia Cowger
 David Cudmore
 David Daley
 Jane Daley
 Gerald Denault
 Lynn Dobmeier
 Tamara Ellefson
 Keith Ellingson
 Richard Erickson
 Daniel Flaten
 Greg Flaten
 Marcel Flaten
 Mark Flaten
 David Foerster
 Mary Gillies
 Don Gunhus
 James Hankey
 Susan Hankey
 Ann Houska
 Joan Hylden
 Martha Hylden
 Eileen Jergenson
 Gail Johnson
 LaDonna Johnson
 Debra Kachena
 Cindy Kelner
 James Kjelland

Laurie Koski
 Dwight Larson
 Valeria Larson
 Loren Laugtug
 Ernest Lien
 Lona Lien
 Duane Lindgren
 Laura Meberg
 Steven Myhre
 Keith Papenfuss
 Cheryl Penas
 Karen Peterson
 Bruce Phelps
 Douglas Praska
 Marlys Ramsey
 Virginia Ramsey
 Jane Samson
 Cheryl Simon
 Ross Spoonland
 Mark Thompson
 Gary Vavrosky
 Lynn Walker
 Laurely Walstad
 Duane Waslaski
 Stephen Zidon
 Joan Lindgren

1972

Mary Almen
 Richard Anderson
 Corrine Askim
 Evarist Barta
 Ernest Barta
 Wayne Bell
 Brian Berg
 Keith Berg
 Teresa Cicha
 Janet Cook
 Joan Cowger
 John Cowger
 Orlin Dahl
 Ralph Daley
 Tim Daley
 Mary Dub
 Deanna Eklund
 Larry Ellingson
 Larry Flaten
 Shane Flaten

Denise Gaarder
 Bette Gorde
 Julianne Hanson
 Peter Harlow
 James Hajicek
 Michael Hanson

Marcia Hogfoss
 Mary Horgan
 Clifton Hylden

Michael Hylden
 Linda Johnson

Gregory Kelly
 Leslie Kirsch
 Julenne Korynta
 William Larson

Lola Laugtug
 Jane Lindgren
 Allen Loftsgard
 Terry Lund
 Joyce Mandt
 Leanne Markusen
 Mary Jo Mason
 Lynn Meberg
 Kevin Melin
 Duane Mondry
 Bonnie Monsebroten
 Nancy Olson
 Blaine Pederson
 Mary Peterka
 Veronica Phelps
 Gary Ramsey
 Alan Seboe
 Richard Setness
 James Silliman
 Teresa Skjerven
 Joan Spoonland
 Stephen Sturlaugson
 Jean Svir
 Amy Tallackson
 James Thompson
 Thomas Thompson
 Laurie Winther
 Claudia Wright
 Geralyn Zidon
 Mark Zidon
 Jeff Flaten



W.C.A.S. Alumni Association

The Walsh County Agricultural and Training School Alumni Association was organized in 1919-1920 with the election of President Arthur Erickson of Lankin and Secretary Treasurer John Berg. The alumni had been having banquets annually since 1915 but the formal Alumni Association was not formed until 1919. About 40-50 members were present to sign the charter member list.

Annual alumni banquets were held and sometimes a dance would follow. Dues varied from 25 to 50 cents and banquets were \$1.00. The association has always been active in supporting the school projects, short course, fair, homecomings and scholarships.

Minutes of the meetings of the first 20 years have been lost along the way but reporting for this time has been done by Chris Midgarden, an active alumni and President of the Association in 1929.

The alumni association was inactive for a time during World War II and re-organized in September of 1947. Officers elected at that time were: Harvey Tallackson, President; Marion Fedje, Vice-President; Clifford Nygard, Secretary; and Aida Lou Colwell, Treasurer. In 1948 life memberships were issued, students pay into the association throughout their high school years. The Alumni Association put out an annual newspaper or newsletter called "Alumni Notes." Sometimes 800 letters would be sent out.

The Alumni Association has been able to donate money to the school for extra things that they have needed such as curtains for the basement assembly hall, bleachers for the Fair Building, football field broadcasting booth, science room remodeling, cinders for the track field and money toward the stage at the new gymnasium.

The last class of WCAS was graduated in 1972. At the July, 1973 meeting the association voted to be called the "Aggie Alumni."

Aggie Alumni

During the bicentennial year of our country, 1976, the Aggie Alumni held their first "All Class" reunion. This was celebrated by 1530 former students and teachers of the Park River High School and WCAS. Larry Lewis, President; Larry Houser, Vice-President; Diane Tallackson, Secretary-Treasurer and Dody Tallackson, Director; were officers. Acting as a special

committee for the event were: Glenna Tallackson, Chairman; Harvey Tallackson, Larry Houser, Kathy Wang Houser, Chris Midgarden, Evie Midgarden, Jay Lewis, Carol Rinde Lewis, Gerald Sandy, Joanne Schildberger Sandy, Bernice Thompson Hall and Dorothy Bena Thompson.

The committee expanded to a broad base and included persons in every age bracket, including many senior citizens. By the time of the reunion there were over 200 persons serving on 37 different committees. The Legion worked on the parade, dances, ball games and the Park River City Council, Park River Park Board, Mrs. Jaycees, Park River School Board and High School Staff, FHA Girls, Twilight Homemakers, Decca and Fortnightly Clubs, Park River Commercial Club and every church in the community were involved. Many individuals came forward without urging to volunteer their help.

Both young and old came together with a common goal- to welcome back their classmates, friends and relatives and to show them what a fine community we have. These efforts brought new cohesion to the community and the praises from the visitors have made us appreciate our Park River.

The committee also wanted something special for the people to remember their homecoming. They commissioned the creation of and sold 500 collector plates bearing pictures of all of the schools that have served the community. Funds were also raised through the sale of hats, the plates and banquet tickets. The final plus was a surplus of over \$2,000 that the association was able to give to the school for material needs.

Most of the Alumni Association banquets are planned with Park River's July 4th celebration and as many as 300 attend each year. Scholastic awards are given each year to the top four students, a traveling trophy for track in memory of Neil Midgarden and the Richard Orsund Memorial Award for an outstanding student. A special award is given by the association to outstanding community supporters of the school: a teacher, janitor, or community person who has not graduated from the school but has given of their own time to the school. The Honorary Membership is given at the annual banquet.

Another "All Class Reunion" is being planned for the Centennial year, 1984. The Alumni Association has appointed Glenna Walstad Tallackson as Chairman again and the plans are underway for another big event. Working with Glenna will be Eugene Loftsgard, President of the Alumni Association; Paul Nilson, Vice-President; Sharon Kadlec, Secretary-Treasurer of the Association; Bill Galloway; Alpha Kjelland, Director; Dorothy Bena Thompson; Beryl Walters White, Joyce Espelien Torgerson; Chris Midgarden; Larry Houser; Kathy Wang Houser and Diane Barrie Tallackson.



Trivia

1881: Voters of seven precincts in the Pembina County voted 293 to 8 in favor of dividing the county and creating what was to become Walsh County.

.....

1881: Walsh County's first newspaper, the "Acton news," published its first issue. Later that same year it moved to Grafton after that city had been selected as the County Seat.

.....

1883: The Dakota Territory Capitol Commission, meeting in Fargo, voted to move the capitol from Yankton to Bismarck.

The following song was found on the back of a picture taken of
Jacob Bider's store in 1889:

LITTLE OLD SOD SHANTY ON THE CLAIM.

AIR:—Old Log Cabin in the Lane.

I am looking rather seedy now, while holding
down my claim:
And my victuals are not always served the best,
And the mice play slyly 'round me, as I nestle
down to sleep,
In my Little Old Sod Shanty on the Claim,

CHORUS:

The hinges are of leather and the windows have
no glass,
While the roof boards let the howling blizzards in
And I hear the hungry gopher as he sneaks up
through the grass,
'Round my Little Old Sod Shanty on the Claim,

And rather like the novelty of living in this way,
Though my bill of fare is always rather tame,
But I'm happy as a clam on this land of Uncle
Sam's,
In my Little Old Sod Shanty on the Claim—[CHO]

My coat is plastered o'er with dough,
And my sairs have crawled away,
Dirty dishes scattered 'round the room,
Even great hunks of slap-jacks is on my only stove
In my Little Old Sod Shanty on the Claim—[CHO]

My land is deeded to me now,
And my squatting days are o'er,
And my creditors are glad to see me home,
But when they speak to me of pay,
I think I hear the angels say,
Get in your Little Old Sod Shanty on your
Claim. [CHO]

Now I am going to Park River,
To take an annual wash,
And get my stum-jack filled up to the brim!
With a mortgage on my farm
Which I fear will do me harm,
And take my Little Old Sod Shanty with my
Claim. [CHO]

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BALD HEADED BALL.

PARK RIVER, - - - - DAKOTA

August 23, 1917

The Commercial Club of Park River sent a telegram to Washington protesting against the low price of wheat, and the telegraph wires on the Hannah lines were kept busy all Tuesday night and a considerable portion of Wednesday with like protests. We hope they will bring results but admit that we have our doubts.

December 19, 1929

Park River's First Born Passes Away

William Fred Chilcott, Son of Wm. L.
And Phoebe Chilcott, Park River
Pioneers, Answers Last Call

N. M. Campbell of this city, this week received word of the death of his nephew W. F. Chilcott, early Park River pioneer. The deceased was born on and Phoebe Chilcott, early Park River pioneers. The deceased was born on June 13th, 1886, being the first white boy born in this city. He was named after Fred Stoltz in Park River lumber king, who in appreciation of the honor deposited a sum of money in the First National Bank of Park River in the boy's name. The money remained in the bank drawing interest till William was 21 years old when it had accumulated into a nice stake.

William Fred Chilcott was well known and highly respected by all who knew him.

March 28, 1935

EARLY MORNING FIRE DESTROYS FLOUR MILL

About 3 o'clock Monday morning it was discovered the flour mill operated by Paulson & Dahl was in flames. John Arnot, who discovered the fire, turned in an alarm and ran to the house, near the burning building, and aroused the Paulson family. When the department arrived the mill was a mass of flames and nothing could be done to save it. The firemen concentrated their efforts to saving the house and in this they were successful with no more damage done than a bad scorching.

No insurance was carried on either the building or equipment. Insurance on the building, owned by Andrew Catherwood, expired April 1. Mr. Catherwood estimates his loss as about \$500. Equipment was owned by Paulson & Dahl and loss is estimated at between \$2000 and \$2500. Paul Paulson and Robt. Mohagen moved the machinery to Park River from Grafton several months ago. The latter sold his interest to Theo. Dahl of Park River. The firm rented and remodeled a barn on Mr. Catherwood's property, known as the O'Hara property, and has since conducted a business of grinding feed and flour. It is not known how the fire that destroyed the mill started.

Public School District No. 78

Elementary, Junior High and High School



HISTORY OF PARK RIVER SCHOOL
1884-1984

Early establishment and growth of the school was much the same in every community of early settlers. The beginning of the schools in Park River was very humble but not any worse than any other community.

School opened for the first time in what was formerly known as W.M. Smith's hall, which many will remember as the law office of G.W. Young. It was a one room affair with long benches for



1921 Park River School Fire

seats, a stove in the center of the room and a schoolmaster at a desk propped upon a high platform in front, with an air of sovereignty. Mr. Quigley was the teacher and had 30 pupils.

There was no permanent home for the school yet and it was moved the next year to what was formerly known as Tom Catherwood's store on the corner of Briggs Ave. and Fifth Street.

The townspeople had held a meeting in December, 1884, and appropriated \$1,500 for a school. They had also voted down the proposal to build East of the railroad tracks. By September 1885, however, the Park River School opened and the new school was expected to be finished in November 1885. School opened with 45 students. Teachers that year were Mr. Quigley, S.F. Bateman was principal and Miss M. Waterman was in charge of the lower grades.

The first school board was organized on November 29, 1884, in the home of C.H. Honey. Officers were: W.D. Bates, Director; Sidney Clarke, Treasurer; and O.C. Waterman, Clerk. This board, backed by a progressive people, did what was characteristic of every pioneer community.

One of the first signs of good community growth is a good school building. On June 3, 1885, a meeting was held and bonds of \$6,000 were authorized for the construction of a school building on

the present site donated by the Townsite company. The contract was let in 1886 and the four room school building was completed in 1887. Mr. C.F. Brightbill and Miss Mayhew constituted the faculty in 1887. Another member was added for the faculty in 1888.

From 1888 to 1914 rapid growth in the school was expected as Park River was growing to be a great agricultural empire. In October 1913 the Park River Gazette News reported a total of 398 students in school. 37 in the First Grade, 31 in the Second Grade, 40 in the Third Grade, 31 in the Fourth Grade, 33 in the Fifth Grade, 31 in the Sixth Grade, 41 in the Seventh Grade, 25 in the eighth Grade and 129 in High School.

"Wealth is acquired easily and quickly in a locality where development is so rapid as it is in the Northwest, and things which would be considered an extravagance in older sections of the country are here deemed of common necessity. This rule



1921 Park River Fire

applies admirably when it serves educational advancement, and nowhere is its application more evident than in Park River.

The aim, in fact, has been to develop here a public school equal to any to be found in the country. It has been a special endeavor on the part of prominent and controlling citizens, without regard of religious or political considerations, to make the schools of Park River worthy the evident future of the city."-Park River Gazette News.

Three times the people of Park River Special School District No. 78 were asked to provide room for the growing population. In 1895, a four room addition was completed and in 1904 another four room addition was constructed as a south wing to the main building.

In February 1907, school was closed due to the lack of coal. No train service had run for eight days and the coal supply was short



Park River Public and High School

in Park River.

By 1913, the school board could see the increase in the enrollment was going to lead to congestion and the school board, upon the suggestion of President Thomas Johnson, voted to tear down and reconstruct and enlarge the assembly room. The work was done and as a result the school gained a large assembly room, perhaps one of the largest in the state and one that would serve the future needs.

Advancement in the courses offered at the school kept up with the progress of the building and growing community. All of the departments of a first class high school were fully completed in 1913, the last being that of domestic science. The faculty members in 1914 numbered fourteen.

In 1916, school apportionment was \$2.83 per capita from the State and \$2.21 from the County. Park River's share was



Park River Gymnasium

\$2,358.72.

With the advent of the Walsh County Agricultural and Training School, the Park River school was not expected to see a declining enrollment, and it was hoped that the two schools could work together.

The Park River High School was eager to grow and by this time one hundred and thirty two students, the pick of the community, were giving service to the community and humanity. Five hundred had completed the eighth grade of elementary school and were taking their places in homes, shops, offices, factories and farms. All in the good school of life.

The school house built by vote of the special district in Feb. 1897 was destroyed by fire on January 2, 1921. The school was replaced at a cost of \$135,000 with the brick building that still stands. Keeping up the payments on the bonds and maintaining

an expensive educational setup proved a burden too heavy for the available income and in 1933 the High School discontinued and the district made arrangements for the students to take their work at the County School.

In 1973, Special School District No. 78 bought the Walsh County Agricultural School and once again Park River has a High School. The grade school continued throughout the years serving the community well.



Park River High School Assembly



Board Members

Mr. Kohnen
Fred Hultstrand
David Mills
Dr. F.E. Weed
C.F. Harris
David Meberg
Dr. V.S. Irvine
Arthur Meagher
Frank H. Olson
Jay Penas
Mrs. Dorothy Kenney
Elmer Argetsinger
Theodore Jensen
Mrs. Mabel Dougherty
John Skjerven
Lynn J. Hanson
Lorenz Mahrer

Gilbert Lee
Mrs. Helen Haas
Milton Stevens
Roy Seboe
Dr. R.D. Nelson
Floyd Fail
Omen Manderud
Duane Hylden
Orian Fjestad
Richard Wilhelmi
Jay A. Lewis
Wallace Thompson
Mrs. Cheryl Kjelland
Ilah Spoonland
Edmund Gaarder
Richard Larson
Mark Fjeld



Clerks

W.P. Simcox
Duncan McLean
Elsie J. Catherwood

Emma Dillon
Ruby T. Green
Donna Olson
Carol Wang



Past Faculty Members

Solveig Nygard
Helen Almen
Helen Kruse
Selina Bjerneby
A.C. Bye
Junice Englerth
Jerome Englerth
John Hobbs
Aida Lou Colwell
Minnie Horgan
Estelle Heggen
Evelyn Machart
Inga Montague
Arlean Fail

Lorraine Pederson
Kay Linehart
Charles Agnes
Richard Riedmann
Marjorie Gustafson
Gerry Rostberg
Elsie Martin
Oswalynnee Ottem
Eleanor Lewis
Joe Kouba
Evelyn Christian
Ervin Sagen
Ethel Machart
Joyce Machart
Myrtle Day

Manuel Tesch
Marilyn Nelson
Margie Pederson
Olga Piepkorn
Jerry Kranzler
Kenneth Bouck
Thelma Bye
Wesley Knain
Connie Larson
Frances Strand
Verna Olson
Ruth Maxwell
Mr. McGowen
Marcie Melstad
Marlene Nelson
Mabel Thompson
Louise Weiler
Alice Olson
Ruth Flaagan
Mary Green
Minnie Bratvold
Olga Kuball
Miss Pratton
Mabel Dougherty
Beulah Hardy
Ethel Thorson
Miss Bjornson
Miss Ruzicka
Miss Wick
Elsie Shoults

Present Faculty At Elementary School

Lenae Olson

Jean Einarson
Faye Jasmer
Kathryn Kibler
Mary Jo Olson
Inez Laugtug
Cheryl Lothspiech
Joy Buchholtz

Kay Alkofer
June Almen
Glenn Rost
Iva Johnson
Dorothy Graber
Lorraine Hylden
Pamela Torkelson
Gary Haug
Richard Holand, Principal



Present Faculty At Junior High & High School

Claude Sheldon, Superintendent
R.D. Clarens, Principal
Marie Hajicek
Betty Kotaska
Fabian Shoults
Gary Haug
Anton Alkofer
Don Korbl

Karen Brodahl
Carol Koziel
Donna Kosmatka
Jorgen Knutson
Fred Thomasson
Jackie Motchenbacher
Lana Hoffman
Marsha Rost

P.R.H.S. Graduates

1894

Emma Robertson (Mrs. U.L. Burdick)
Alice Taliff (Mrs. O. Northfield)

1895

Henrietta Honey (Mrs. Hans Nesne)
Dan Campbell

1896

Burt Greene

1897

Annie Campbell
Lewis Fallis
Etta Ford (Mrs. John Porter)
Evelyn McMurray

1898

Nellie Ames (Mrs. James Skinner)
Fannie Baird (Mrs. Glendenning)
Annie Fallis (Mrs. E.D. Norton)
Mae Green
Clayton Harris
Eleanor Smith
Ruth Woodward

1900

Annie Burbidge
John Dougherty
Mabel McMurray (Mrs. E.H. Woodruff)

1902

Emmett Dougherty
Frank Lord
Mae Mathews (Mrs. C.W. Atkin)
Frances Sonderson (Mrs. Ray Whitman)

1903

Ezra Ames
Walter Nelson
Harry O'Hara
Pauline Vorachek
Frederick Warner

1904

Eleanor Currie
Bertha Martin
Maude Roy

1905

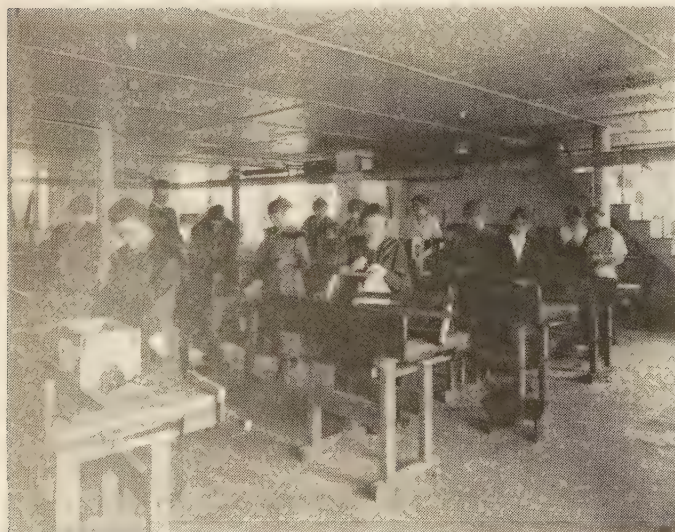
Seymour Anderson
Permilla Hughes (Mrs. Karl Kester)
Ada Honey (Mrs. Mark Nickerson)
Neomi Kern (Mrs. Tom Harris)
Jesse Lord



Park River School District No. 78

1906

Carl Foss
Les Harris
David Mills
Mildred Nelson (Mrs. Roy Clough)
Martha Young



Park River High School Wood Working Lab.

1907

Norman Bennington
Ethel Cameron (Mrs. Frank Cameron)
Ella Currie (Mrs. C.C. Zartnan)
Irene Farup (Mrs. I.E. Hansen)
Oscar Gullicson
Florence Honey
Clair Kreitzberg
James Robertson
Clarence Robertson
Lars Wambem
William Warner



Park River High School Chemistry Lab.

1908

Clint Arnot
Worth Botsford
Fordyce Code
Florence Dougherty
Marion Fossberg
Mae Gemmill (Mrs. Earl Armstrong)
Minnie Gullickson (Mrs. Frank Lovestrom)
Frank McBride
Faye Scherman (Mrs. A.A. Lucas)
John Young

1909

Margaret Guldseth
Eunice Kohnen (Mrs. Roy Peterson)
Jennie Levin
Lawrence Plank
Bena Powell (Mrs. Peve Claxton)
Benjamin Rinde
Clarence Thompson
Annie McDermott (Mrs. J.E. Hasty)

1910

Lucille Bennett (Mrs. L. Arnberger)
Walter Botsford
Edna Cameron (Mrs. Howard Newman)
Charlotte Currie (Mrs. W.B. Brisley)
Myrtle Finneseth (Mrs. David Mills)
Ina Harris (Mrs. Hershel Pearson)
Tello McCullough
Albert Martinek
Agnes Robb (Mrs. Byron Smith)

1911

Janette Breathet (Mrs. Ira Mann)
Oswald Brett
Winnifred Craig (Mrs. Lawrence Young)
Agnes Lestrud (Mrs. H.J. Lund)
Joseph Martinek
Severt Marifjeren
Olive Mills (Mrs. G.G. Moe)
Margaret Plank
Gertrude Peoples (Mrs. Gertrude Taylor)
Thonder Thordorson
Florence White (Mrs. F. Hutchinson)

1912

Florence Brett (Mrs. Joe Connally)
Jesse Farup (Mrs. Cyril O'Reilly)
Ruth Farup (Mrs. K.D. Bennett)
Myra Kohnen (Mrs. Osburn Severtson)
Edith Dreitzberg (Mrs. Wiley Sweet)
Gladys Levin
Allen Loughhead
Elsie Mills (Mrs. A.W. Aylmer)
Mabel Martyn (Mrs. Fred Peterson)
Florence O'Brien (Mrs. Paul E. Utecht)
Mary Robb (Mrs. Nels Haugen)
Selma Rogne (Mrs. Norman Hoff)
Erma Robertson (Mrs. Albert Harris)
Dena Reinertson (Mrs. Henery Hovelhurst)
Ella Stenerson
George Smith
Olive Towle (Mrs. Herman Bouchet)

1913

Edith Atiken
Grace Bennington (Mrs. Lester Campbell)
Vida Brett
Irene Campbell (Mrs. Norman Bennington)
Lawrence Chounard
Walter Dougherty
Florence Erickson
Harriet Mills (Mrs. Douglas McKay)
Percy McKay
Maude Martin (Mrs. Arne Vinge)
Alma Overbye (Mrs. A.H. Mogren)

1914

Ruth Arnot (Mrs. Ruth Hudson)
Sophia Bergman (Mrs. E. Myrdal)
Magni Davidson
Ernest Harris
Eva Hasle (Mrs. G.D. Wonder)
Johan Halldorson
Lois McPherson (Mrs. Nick Simmer)
Barbara Martinek (Mrs. Matt Heckel)
Charles O'Brien
Thurman Thompson
Florence Young (Mrs. Ed Turner)
Clarke Farup

1915

Adolph Aamoth
Eva Arnot (Mrs. Howard Smart)
Albert Bennington
Clarence Bateman
Christine Bergman (Mrs. G Einarson)
Tracy Buchingham
Victor Bylin
Alice Campbell (Mrs. A.W. Grovseth)
Beth Catherwood (Mrs. Harry Buck)
Bernice Church (Mrs. Palmer Overbye)
Edna Christianson (Mrs. Maurice Barnett)
Margaret Eyolfson (Mrs. John Geston)
Agnes Holth
Benda Hasle (Mrs. B.O. Robbins)
Guy Hilleboe
William Helt
Harvey Ferguson
Harold Kenney
Alive Levin (Mrs. Frank Sussex)
Adline Levin (Mrs. Wilford Rose)
Hedvig Lindell (Mrs. Melvin Fjeld)
Opal Martin (Mrs. L.A. Sprule)
Phyllis Martyn (Mrs. Charles Bordwell)
Gertrude Neste (Mrs. James Wilson)
Berglot Astboe (Mrs. J. Ed. Gregg)
Ella Arnland (Mrs. Leslie Klingel)
Lottie O'Brien (Mrs. J.J. Rengle)
Russell Phair
Jalmer Reinertson
Herman Skola
Wanda Smith (Mrs. Cecil Birder)
Oline Thorliefson (Mrs. W. Halldorson)
Clarence Wick
LLoyd Walstrom
Rosa Walker

1916

Florence Aitken
Arthur Erickson
Arthur Gillickson
Elizabeth Helt (Mrs. William Thomas)
Ruth Johnson (Mrs. Ruth Bielen)
Freda Johnson
Violet Johnson (Mrs. Fred Johnson)
Anna Kowalsik (Mrs. Albert Longdale)
Amanda Lohse
Joyce Martin (Mrs. Edgar Mattson)
Lester Mulleneaux
Bagga Myrdal
Urla McLaughlin (Mrs. Urla Fraizer)
Johanna McIntyre (Mrs. Charles Neithammer)
Melvin Neste
Auroria Algierson
Runa Algierson
Emmet O'Hara
Clifford Overbye
Vincent O'Brien
Ruth Quill
Roy Scidmore
Elmer Skola

Marie Simmer (Mrs. Ben Setterberg)
Gudrun Thorson (Mrs. Jack Halberg)
Thyri Thordarson (Mrs. Walter Johnson)
Alma Thompson (Mrs. Lloyd Harris)
Millard White
Priscilla Walstrom (Mrs. J.C. Overbye)
Robert Young

1917

Myron Bateman
James Brett
Jessie Craig (Mrs. Sidney Levin)
Pansy Davidson
Arne Eyolfson
Paul Farup
Gladys Finneseth (Mrs. O.M. Moore)
Jessie Gillespie (Mrs. J.E. Lloyd)
George Harris
Carl Hadland
Geneva Johnson
Thelma Koppang (Mrs. C.A. Grossman)
Mae Lindberg (Mrs. Anthony Demayo)
Carl Lindgren
Lina Landsborough
Maria Myrdal
John McEachern
Albina Machart
Lawrence Overbye
Elizabeth Olgieron (Mrs. Steine Hanson)
Harry Overbye
Vernon Parke
Etta Parke (Mrs. Stub Walker)
Lucille Spornitz (Mrs. Louis Delvo)
Hilda Stoa
Nickolas Simmer
Frithof Thorson
Leland Taylor
Mabel Thompson
Hattie Trovatten (Mrs. Charles Erzinger)
Lillie Wick (Mrs. O.E. Heskin)

1918

Gordon Ford
Evelyn Gullickson (Mrs. Ted Kelleher)
Arnold Hasle
Verona Hanson
Opal Jensen (Mrs. Gemmill)
Clinton Martyn
Lily Nelson (Mrs. Isaac Akre)
Iza Parke
Minnie Simmer (Mrs. E. Chartier)
Katie Simmer (Mrs. M. Holmquist)
Ida Westby
Milly Walstrom (Mrs. A.G. Taylor)
Myrtle McLean (Mrs. Lawrence Ray)

1919

Minnie Anderson (Mrs. Arthur Jacot)
Anna Olafson (Mrs. Dr. L.F. Sussex)
Inez Olson



PARK RIVER HIGH SCHOOL ORCHESTRA

First Row: Erma Spornitz, Ella Hanson, Eugenia Lovcik

Second Row: Irma Spornitz, Josephine Wick, Mr. Davenport, Leland Taylor Supt. L. Moe Pianist- Snow Magoon Leader - Miss Gallop

Ivan Spornitz
 Ethel Ferguson (Mrs. Ray Anderson)
 Lily A. Olgieron (Mrs. B. Hanson)
 Florence McLean
 Clifford Gates
 Anna Halldorson (Mrs. L. Townsend)
 Luella Johnson (Mrs. Sidney Sorkness)
 Fred Houlihan
 Gilbert Lindgren
 Ella Nygard
 Iva Tewksbury (Mrs. Gaylord Cormnay)
 Mildred Overbye (Mrs. Leo Preske)
 Josephine Wick (Mrs. Orville Tryhus)
 Harold Church
 Lillian Kohnen (Mrs. L. Chapman)
 Frances Rath
 Ralph Robertson
 Eugenia Lovcik
 Blanche Connor (Mrs. Dr. Heising)
 Louretta C. McLean (Mrs. B. Hensel)
 Inez K. Jobe (Mrs. G. Toppla)

1920

Harvey Alm
 Anna Anderson (Mrs. Ted Eyolfson)
 Ida Arneson (Mrs. Selmer Lundberg)
 Luella Connor (Mrs. Earl Tibbetts)
 Ted Eyolfson
 Elmira Grobell (Mrs. Corbin)
 Nettie Hanson
 Thora Hanson (Mrs. Sam Knutson)
 James Hobbs
 Delina Houlihan
 Lillian Johnson
 Ruben Johnson
 Myrtle Kelleher (Mrs. Earl Gramer)
 Elsie Lindgren
 Annie Magoon (Mrs. C.E. O'Brien)
 Arthur Meagher

Alice O'Hara
 Ida Overbye (Mrs. Melvin Neste)
 Eva Phair (Mrs. O.M. Collins)
 Marguerite Phair (Mrs. Harris Eaton)
 Lisle Scidmore
 Stewart White
 Rose Wick (Mrs. Kenneth Eaton)
 Hutton Young

1921

Mary Aitken
 Mary Bennington (Mrs. R.E. Bellin)
 Viola Breidfjord (Mrs. K. Christianson)
 Everett Bruce
 Norma Cates



Park River High School Adelphian Society

Mary Connor (Mrs. Max Utecht)
 Chester Johnson
 Inga Johnson (Mrs. Avi Johnson)
 Ardelle Koppang (Mrs. Sig Mortenson)
 Edith Lofthus
 Arthur McIntyre
 Gladys McLean (Mrs. Carl Crogsvig)
 Mabel Marifjeren
 Juna Olgieron
 Ernest Olson
 Virginia Simcox (Mrs. C.J. Holloran)
 Erma Spornitz (Mrs. Art Berg)
 Annie Thompson (Mrs. Carl Momerak)
 Gunna Thorsteinson (Mrs. William Skjerven)

1922

Ernest Alm
 Jay Bates
 Glenn Brett
 Pearl Edwards
 Gladys Eggers
 Ruth Ferguson
 Florence Gates (Mrs. M.O. Johnson)
 Ella Hanson
 Archie Johnson
 Mildred Kohnen (Mrs. Willis Watson)
 Lulu Knowles
 Clement Kenney
 Anna Meagher
 Esther Myrdal
 Elizabeth Peoples
 Ethel Walker (Mrs F.V. Keplinger)



Girl's Glee Club 1922-23

1923

Mildred Aitken (Mrs. Bengt Anderson)
 William Aitken
 Alda Anderson (Mrs. David Nerell)
 Nettie Blacken (Mrs. A Kirkness)
 Leonard Craig
 Alice Edwards (Mrs. C.J. Ostdiek)
 Edith Ford (Mrs. Clinton Peoples)
 Ada Gilbert
 Ernest Gustafson
 Olette Hasle (Mrs. G.H. Welingham)
 Helen Hobbs
 Lucella Jenkinson (Mrs. P. Sorlien)
 Elmer Johnson
 Fanny Kitchen (Mrs. J.P. Farrell)
 Rena McLean
 Sadie McLean (Mrs. Anton Larson)



Park River High School Class of 1923

Lillian Marifjeren
 Mabel Nygren
 Martel Overbye (M.B.)
 William Peoples
 Inger Thompson (Mrs. Peter Mickelson)
 Verna Tollefson
 Thelma Wick

1924

Gordon Anderson
 Beate Brandt
 Norman Cross
 Olive Falter (Mrs. Adolph Unger)
 Anna Fee



BOY'S GLEE CLUB 1923-1924

A. Meagher, J. Church, McPherson, Ferguson, Walsrom, J. Pederson, Young, Levang, Peoples, E. Larson, Skyrud, R. Johnson, O.brandt, H. Larson, C. Knutson, G. Anderson, Anderson

Florence Gergen (Mrs. Clare Connolly)
 Clifford Iverslie
 Clarence Knutson
 Margaret Kohnen
 Elmer Larson
 Edna McLean
 Louise McCauley (Mrs. George Burchell)
 Clarke McLean
 Olive Skalet (Mrs. Carl Nielson)
 Eloine Shephard
 James Skyrud
 Ellen Thorliefson
 Marian Simcox (Mrs. J.L. Williamson)
 Lew Young
 Rachel Gillespie (Mrs. Ralph Whaley)
 Marie Johnson (Mrs. L.B. Foster)
 Alda Wilson

1925

Glen Anderson
 Helen Burbidge (Mrs. Oscar Peterson)
 Jerome Church
 Lillian Cross (Mrs. Clarence Porter)



CLASS OF 1925

Seated: Jerome Church, Charles Dalton, George Schlenk, Supt. Simcox, Cecil Kenny, Glen Anderson

Standing: Lillian Cross, Sylvia Wick, Myrna Peoples, Helen Burbidge, Mary Kenny, Maude Hanson, Kathryn McCauley, Ruth Eaton, Viola Skalet.

Charles F. Dalton
 Ruth Eaton
 Maud Hanson (Mrs. Norman McPherson)
 Mary Kenney (Mrs. Neil Marifjern)
 Cecil Kenney
 Catherine McCauley
 Myrna Peoples

George Schlenk
Viola Skalet (Mrs. Chester Baker)
Sylvia Wick

1926

Grace Hasle
Ralph Johnson
Harold Larson
Erna Lohse (Mrs. Charles Cox)
John Lohse
Dorothy McIntyre (Mrs. Oscar Martin)
Alex Meagher
Lois Peoples
Russell Simcox



Park River High School Girl's Glee Club 1927-1928

1927

Inez Arness (Mrs. Gordon Johnson)
Lillian Havorson
Clarence Shepherd
Gertrude Spornitz



Park River High School Boy's Glee Club 1927-1928

1928

Jenney Fleming (Mrs. Arnold Weber)
Alta Graham
Evelyn Harris (Mrs. H.F. Wilson)
Mabel Kenney (Mrs. M.C. Eckman)



Back Row: Mabel Kenney, Mr. Simcox, John McPherson, Wanda Young

Front Row: Jenny Reeson, Lillian Peck, Carroll Simcox, Alta Graham, Evelyn Harris

John McPherson
Lillian Peck (Mrs. A.W. Nystrom)
Carroll Simcox
Wanda Young

1929

Albert Bruce
Stella Kenney (Mrs. Harry Carlson)
Kathleen McIntyre (Mrs. H.G. Davis)
Duncan Meagher
Lila Olson (Mrs. Frank Walker)
Frank Walker

1930

Elva Young
Sophie Brandt
Victoria Wick (Mrs. E.R. Rogers)
Agnes Peck
Hazel Graham (Mrs. Earl Bayne)
Lloyd Jorgenson



1930

Margaret Cameron (Mrs. Jack Brandt)
Agnes Schlenck
Isabelle Walker (Mrs. J. Cody)
Lillian Skalet
Florence Levang
Lois McNiel (Mrs. Allen Wade)
Averil Gillespie (Mrs. Del Goodsell)

1931

Kathryn Ferguson (Mrs. Paul Bach)
Mary Dunn (Mrs. John O'Brien)
Alice Young
Clinton Arnot
Alice Herwick
Edwin Herwick
Cora Gilbert
Leyton Nelson
Johnnie Edwards

1932

Joyce Masloski
Angelyn Kenney
Bill Kenney
Garth White
Bill Schlenk
Joy Ratliff
Charles Porter
LeVeorn McIntyre (Mrs. Gunnar (Spivak) Oppeboen)



1932-1933 Park River High School

Ralph Leonard
Margaret Leonard
Thelma Lien (Mrs. C. Lindberg)
Kenneth Larson
Ethel Lawson (Mrs. Joe Barkowski)
Marvin Dale
Alice Dunn (Mrs. Vincent Smythe)
Ruth Herum (Mrs. Eddie Dyer)



1932

Park River High School closed its doors in June, 1933. The depression had taken its toll and it no longer feasible or financially possible to continue running the high school since there was also a county owned and subsidized agricultural school in the area. With the opening of school in September of 1933, the students of PRHS were transferred to WCAS. This was to continue for the next 40 years, until 1972, when the county decided to sell the county school to School District No. 78 and it again became the Park River High School.

The school voted to retain the nickname "Aggies" for its sports activities, but the official name is again Park River High School. A history of the beginning of WCAS is also included in this book.

Transferees from PRHS in 1933, who eventually graduated from WCAS were:

Karen Brandt
Myhron Carlen
Sarah Mae Gillespie
Anna Gronvold (Mrs. M.B. Overbye)
Alice Harris
Adeline McIntyre
Olive Magoon (Mrs. W.R. Lokken)
Earl Olson
James Robertson
Rhoda Bennett
Signe Brandt



1933

Dave Lawson
Myrtle Meagher
Roy Neste



1934

Donah Olson (Mrs. Homer Lucken)
Ferne Peck
Wally Severson
Lorraine Cost (Mrs. Stanley Koubak)
Bob Arnot
Alice Gillespie
Inez Thompson
John Arnot
Helen Brandt (Mrs. Roy Neste)
Florence Campbell
Nadine Carlen (Mrs. Duane Chapman)
Dorothy Dobmeier
Mildred Ferguson (Mrs. Lloyd Gullickson)



1935

Dorothy Grovum
Hazel Jergenson (Mrs. Doug Martin)
Esther Jergenson
Harriet Masloski
Ruth O'Brien (Mrs. James Vavrosky)
Delores Plesner
Bob Plunkett
Anna Fay Weed (Mrs. Earl Fritz)

Marie Bennington (Mrs. Thelmer Dale)
 Thelma Dahl (Mrs. Carroll Vreeland)
 Florence Ferguson (Mrs. Swankee)
 Kathryn Kenney
 Richard Johansen



1936

O'Gorman King
 Kathryn Wick
 Victor Hultstrand
 Aldyce Larson (Mrs. Bill Magnusson)
 Marion McKay (Mrs. Kenneth Ball)
 Milton Warner
 Frances Irvine (Mrs. Van Heuvlon)
 Duane Campbell
 Clayton Ratcliff
 Vernon Erickson

1973

Debra Anderson
 Sheree Anderson
 Richard Bateman
 Cynthia Baumann
 Steven Carlson
 Mary Clarens
 Jana Clemens
 Pamela Coles
 Ardis Collins
 Michael Cudmore
 Gwendolyn Dahl
 Donald Elznic
 Timothy Erovick
 Renae Espelien
 Jonathan Fjeld
 Kristin Gaarder
 Gary Gilbert
 Jeffery Hajicek
 Anne Hankey
 Paula Hankey
 Steve Hankey
 Peter Hunter
 Daniel Hylden
 Margaret Hymer
 Geraldine Jasmer
 Sheila Kalgard
 Collene Kelly
 Eugene Listopad
 Brian Loftsgard
 Raynald Lutovsky
 Kathryn Manderud
 Dean Meberg
 Lance Mertz
 Valery Midgarden

Betty Momerak
 Sharyl Moffett
 Bradley Oberg
 Duayne Pitcher
 Caren Ramsey
 David Ramsey
 Laurie Ramsey
 Paul Samson
 Arlen Simon
 Joan Stevens
 Michael Tverberg
 John Voss
 Edna Winther
 Susanne Zidon

1974

David Anderson
 Mark Bennington
 Tracy Carlson
 Bernadette Cicha
 Brenda Cole
 Cynthia Cudmore
 Dawn Cudmore
 Dianne Dobmeier
 Marco Eklund
 Sharon Engebretson
 Mark Falter
 Dawn Ferguson
 Douglas Flaten
 Kenneth Flaten
 Matthew Foerster
 Thomas Ford
 Jean Frier

Patricia Galloway
 Joan Gunhus
 Randal Hajicek
 Pamela Hankey
 Elizibeth Hodny
 Charles Houska
 Erna Johnson
 Constance Kachena
 Kimin Kalgard
 Gordon Kirsch
 Michael Korynta
 Linda Koski
 Gwen Larson
 Robert Larson
 Bruce Laugtug
 Grant Lien
 Timothy Lindgren
 LuAnn Mahrer
 Monty Mertz
 Susan Moen
 Corliss Monsebroten
 Donald Nygard
 Deanne Olson
 Deborah Praska
 Catherine Ramsey
 Robert Ramsey
 Gary Rollefstad
 Lynnette Seboe
 Luan Setness
 Luetta Simon
 Mark Skjerven
 Tracy Spoonland
 Brian Thompson
 Christina Thompson
 Douglas Vavrosky
 Craig Walsted
 David Walker
 Gary Wambem
 Allen Wright
 Allen Zidon

1975

Carol Almen
 Kenneth Baumann
 Keith Borgeson
 Cynthia Chromy
 Greg Chromy
 Jerome Cicha
 Thomas Clemetson
 Holly Collins
 Tim Collins
 Bradley Clow
 Brad Dahl
 Glenn Daley
 James Dobmeier
 Sandra Dvorak
 Carolee Ellingson
 Bruce Ellingson
 Patty Erovick
 Teresa Fjeld
 Don Flaten
 Janelle Flaten
 Lynn Flaten

Pam Flaten
 Randy Flaten
 Todd Flaten
 Nancy Galloway
 Gary Hajicek
 Terrence Hajicek
 Karla Hankey
 Allen Harlow
 Dawn Helland
 Barbara Hobbs
 Barbara Johnson
 Kent Johnson
 Caryn Larson
 Daryl Larson
 Thomas Larson
 Kevin Larson
 Douglas Lewis
 Cheryl Liddle
 Debora Loftsgard
 Julie Loftsgard
 Cheryl Lothspeich
 Ruth Manderud
 Nancy Midgarden
 Cynthia Moen
 Marvin Momerak
 Marquita Novak
 Larry Olson
 Kurt Onstad
 Keith Pederson
 John Phelps
 Deborah Porter
 Patricia Ramsey
 Richard Ramsey
 James Sobolik
 Scott Sobolik
 Eric Sturlaugson
 Cynthia Thompson
 John Thompson
 Marc Thompson
 Richard Thompson
 Richard Trosen
 Bonnie Tverberg
 Cynthia Votava
 Gary Votava
 Kelly Waslaski
 Mary Wang

1976

Mary Alkofer
 Donna Anderson
 Mark Bakke
 Scott Bakke
 Margaret Baumann
 Sue Bogert
 Jill Borgeson
 Deanna Brandt
 Julie Chyle
 Julie Clemens
 Joan Cole
 John Cook
 Bette Jo Dahl
 Susan Eklund
 Paul Engebretson

Jonathan Foerster
 Larry Gaarder
 Mary Gilbert
 Paul Halverson
 Carl Hanson
 Craig Houska
 Julie Hylden
 Dwight Johnson
 Lynette Johnson
 Russell Johnson
 Keith Korynta
 Casey Kjonaas
 Mary Laaveg
 Tom Lindell
 Wini Lutovsky
 Eric Meberg
 Julie Penas
 Sheryl Peterson
 Kathleen Phelps
 Bradley Rachac
 Russell Ramsey
 Sandra Ramsey
 Sylvia Setness
 Gerald Simon
 Susan Simmons
 Lori Sobolik
 Keith Sorenson
 Danny Syrup
 Debbie Tesch
 Randall Trosen
 Cheryl Tverberg
 David Voss
 Karen Votava
 Kenneth Votata
 Allen Wambem
 Belinda Weisz
 Leslie Winther
 Paula Wright
 Catherine Zidon

1977

Julie Alkofer
 Sally Bateman
 Tina Berg
 Wayne Christianson
 Karl Chromy
 Valerie Chyle
 Julie Cicha
 Mark Cowger
 Karen Cudmore
 Curtis Dahl
 Alan Daley
 Steve Daley
 Patricia DeLeon
 Mary Dobmeier
 Karen Dobmeier
 Billy Dub
 Greg Ellingson
 Teresa Falter
 Jeffrey Ferguson
 Garth Ford
 Jeffery Frovarp
 Bill Galloway

Pamela Garnaas
 Thomas Gieszler
 Frank Hazelman
 Laurie Hajicek
 Tami Helland
 Kenneth Hylden
 Lynda Holand
 Julie Kalgard
 Pamela Kelly
 Lorie Laaveg
 Nancy Larson
 Kevin Leith
 Jan Lewis
 Jeffrey Lindgren
 Lori Lothspeich
 Dave Moe
 Cheryl Momerak
 Donald Momerak
 Thomas Morstad
 Tami Olson
 Naomi Onstad
 Timothy Ostenrude
 Kathryn Peterson
 Ronald Ramsey
 Ann Skjerven
 Laurel Skjerven
 Jean Sobolik
 Beth Spoonland
 Cynthia Staven
 Diana Syrup
 Susan Tesch
 Kristie Thompson
 Donald Vavrosky
 Karen Vavrosky
 Judy Walker
 Rock Welch
 James Winther

1978

Peter Almen
 Cheryl Anderson
 Teresa Bakke
 Owen Berg
 Franklin Bjornson
 Charles Chyle
 Rosemary Cicha
 Suellen Cole
 Sara Daley
 Candyce Erovvick
 Jo Ellen Espelien
 Mark Espelien
 Tamara Frovarp
 Deborah Grinde
 Kari Hankey
 James Hanson
 Catherine Houdek
 Cheryl Jallo
 Lina Johnson
 Dennis Kelly
 Jan Knudson
 Brenda Knutson
 Richard Lee
 Tami Leith
 Lisa Loftsgard

Peter Meberg
 Natalie Miller
 Cynthia Nowell
 Anette Osell
 Robert Phelps
 Scot Ramsey
 Mark Samson
 Kevin Skavhaug
 Todd Sobolik
 Lea Sturlaugson
 Betty Stiem
 Michael Tesch
 Luke Thompson
 Janet Votava
 Rebecca Votava
 Jeffrey Walker
 Brian Weisz
 Kelly Jo Markel

1979

Robert Anderson
 Michael Bateman
 Ruth Ann Bennington
 Kathleen Borgeson
 Teresa Brouillard
 Jan Coles
 Harold Chyle
 Melanie Dub
 Deborah Ellingson
 James Ferguson
 James Galloway
 Kevin Gieszler
 Robert Gunhus
 Dean Halverson
 Phyllis Hankey
 Bruce Hornberger
 Ellen Houdek
 Eric Hylden

Randy Jensen
 Judy Johnson
 Nicholaas Jonk
 Ronald Kachena
 Carmen Kelly
 John Kelner
 Lynn Koski
 Ann Kosthoris

Jerel Lindgren
 Kyle Linstad
 Jeffrey Lovaasen
 Sam Midgarden
 Carol Momerak
 Dennis Ramsey
 Denise Shoults
 Colin Skavhaug
 Jaqueline Sobolik
 Victor Studney Jr.
 Kristi Sturlaugson
 Jane Thompson
 Yvonne Votava
 Cheryl Weisz
 Brenda Zidon

1980

Gregory Alkofer
 William Alkofer
 Laurel Bakke
 Valerie Bina
 Ines Berg
 Diane Borgeson
 Robert Bruce
 Chris Campbell
 Janelle Chyle
 Joseph Cicha
 Rodger Clemetson
 John Coler
 Julie Coler
 Douglas Dahl
 Suellen Dahl
 Nadine Daley
 Renae Daley
 Sandi DeLeon
 Debbie Dvorak
 Kurt Espelien
 Carla Flaten
 Maren Flaten
 Perry Flaten
 Beverly Frier
 Gregory Frovarp
 Michael Graber
 Faye Helland
 Peter Holand
 Becky Hornberger
 Todd Hylden
 Loretta Knutson
 David Lansing
 Robert Meagher
 La Donna Miller
 Timothy Moen
 Jay Nelson
 Melaine Nelson
 June Nowell
 Guy Praska
 Linda Rachac
 Sally Ramsey
 Tami Ramsey
 Roger Setness
 James Shoults
 Lynette Simon
 Allen Skjerven
 Wendy Skjerven
 Larry Torgerson
 Patty Torgerson
 Kathryn Vavrosky
 Dale Wang
 Tobin Welch
 Linda Winther
 Carla Youngquist
 David Zidon

1981

Daryl Bakke
 Rhea Bischoff
 Lana Bricnac
 John Brouillard
 Richard Bruce

Valerian Chyle Jr.
 Gregory Cicha
 Jane Collins
 Shawn Dub
 Jon Ferguson
 Sandra Fjestad
 Susan Galloway
 Donald Garnaas
 Carole Hajicek
 David Hankey
 Theresa Hanson
 Suzanne Holand
 Felix Hornbergr
 Robert Hylden
 Connie Jelinek
 Kevin Jensen
 Roger Johnson
 Teresa Kachena
 John Kemp
 Lynette Koski
 Mark Kosthoris
 James Liddle
 Craig Magnusson
 Wade Markel
 Cindy Midgarden
 Teresa Novak
 Rebecca Owen
 Jon Ramsey
 Robert Rollefstad
 Paige Sandy
 Peggy Seboe
 Curtis Simon
 Paul Spoonland
 Tamara Staven
 Ronald Thompson
 Susan Votava
 Mary Kay Walker
 Rick Walker
 Mary Jo Welch
 Dori Youngquist

1982

Shelle Anderson
 Steve Anderson
 Annita Berg
 Constance Bina

Nancy Cook
 Scott Dub
 Brian Englerth
 Lisa Fischer
 Amy Flaten
 Gretchen Flaten
 Shawn Gieszler
 Jay Harlow
 Angie Jelenik
 Marlene Johnson
 Jenny Kachena
 Stacy Kelly
 Scott Kemp
 Deborah Kjelland
 Sherri Laaveg
 Stefan Linstad
 Wesley Midgarden
 Douglas Momersk
 Ronald Nelson
 Scott Neste
 Lorelei Novak
 Robert Onstad
 Dale Pecka
 Tammy Pecka
 Phyllis Quam
 Dean Ramsey
 Gail Ramsey
 Timothy Ramsey
 Nanna Roos
 Perry Sandy
 Lisa Shoults
 Mary Shoults
 Carol Sobolik
 Timothy Solseng
 Paula Studeny
 Susan Troftgruben
 Roben Trosen
 Neal Weisz
 Noriko Yoshikawa

1983

Kristen Alkofer
 Tom Alkofer
 Mary Anderson
 Vital Brouillard
 James Chyle

Helen Cicha
 James Coler
 Cindy Dahl

Elaine Daley
 Kyza Daley
 Sharolyn DeLeon
 Brenda Denault
 Randy Dub
 Renee Dub
 Mike Dvorak
 Gregg Espelien
 Brad Frovarp
 Gary Helland
 Brenda Hobbs
 John Holand
 Valerie Honcik
 Brenda Jallo
 Darin Johnson
 Dale Kosobud

Wayne Laaveg

Nancy Lewis
 Lisa Liddle
 Rochelle Linstad
 Brian Lipsh
 David Lipsh
 Laura Mastre
 Kim Meagher
 Shari Moe
 Heidi Novak
 Paul Novak
 Roslyn Novak
 Steven O'Shea
 Lorene Pitcher
 Mary Ann Praska
 Nancy Porter
 Todd Schmaltz
 Darcie Seboe
 Xan Severson
 Jeff Shoults
 Gerald Slaamod
 Lincoln Sobolik
 Markku Suokas
 Virginia Svir
 James Tesch

Thomas Thompson Jr.
 Robbi Wang

Douglas Whitman
 Timothy Jelenik

1984

Patricia Baumann
 Scott Berger
 Chad Botner
 Diann Clarens
 Lorie Denault
 Bradley Flaten
 Dean Flaten
 Susan Fjestad
 Jo Ellen Gaarder
 John Hajicek
 Diane Hankey
 Robert Herman
 Brian Hobbs
 Lori Honcik
 Bradley Jasmer
 Kari Johnson
 Kathryn Kadlec
 Debbie Kemp
 Barbara Lipsh
 Jodi Lothspeich
 Kimberly Loughhead
 Michael Midgarden
 Nicole Midgarden
 Danny Owens
 Allen Ramsey
 Wade Sandy
 Melody Schmidt
 Louis Schufletowski Jr.
 Jay Skjerven
 Gary Slaamod
 Carmen Stark
 Leslie Studeny
 La Rae Syrup
 Steven Tesch
 Russell Trosen
 Steven Votava
 Wes Welch
 Endora Wilkes



Park River High School Alumni Association (1928-1942)

The Park River High School Alumni Association was organized in 1928, in response to a call issued by the school paper "Hi-Eye." The work of arousing an interest in such an organization was undertaken and completed chiefly by Grace Hasle of the class of 1926.

As a result of her efforts, 14 Alumni gathered in the high school auditorium on May 8, 1928, and the Park River High School Alumni Association was launched.

Officers chosen were: President- Ella Hanson, Vice President- Grace Hasle, Secretary-Treasurer is Harold Larson.

It was voted to hold the first banquet during commencement week. Committee in charge of this was Mrs. J.C. Overbye, Louise

McCauley, Mrs. L. Chapman, Arthur Meagher, and Lillie Wick.

In charge of membership were: Mrs. Melvin Neste, Iza Parke, Sylvia Wick, Fritz Thorson and Melvin Neste. 95 charter members were signed up at \$1.00 each.

The First Annual Banquet was held on May 29, 1928, with the following program:

Welcome- Ella Hanson

Welcome to Class of 1928

Response by Carroll Simcox, Class of 1928

Roster of Alumni- Grace Hasle

J.C. Overbye recalled the record of the Park River High School in World War I

Constitution- presented by Supt. W.B. Simcox
Election of Executive Committee: Mrs. C.P. O'Brien, David Mills
Orchestra Selection- 3-T-K- Orchestra

Stories of Ye Olden Time presented by David Mills, C.P. O'Brien
Violin Solo- Ella Hanson
Talk- Ethel Cameron
Talk- Gladys Moore
Vocal Solo- Florence Hutchinson
Community Singing followed by Song of Park River High
The evening was spent dancing.

Annual banquets were held every year the last of May or first part of June. The Alumni Association had two sets of officers, one local and one for out of town members. The officers were elected from 1931-1935 and they took care of all greetings and letters from members who were unable to attend. The officers also kept a record of all who attended and a directory of all who attended and sent greetings and what they were doing. The letters were read at the annual banquet.

Dues for the Alumni Association went down to \$.50 in 1929 and in 1933 dues were \$.25. Banquet tickets started at \$1.00 and \$1.25 and at their picnic in 1942 it was \$.35 each.

Minutes of the meetings were kept from Spring 1928 to June 1942. The Park River High School had closed in 1933 but the Alumni Association continued until 1942 and then it discontinued because of World War II.

Presidents of the Park River Alumni Association from 1928 to 1942 were: Ella Hanson, Mrs. C.P. O'Brien, John McPherson, Thelma Wick, David Mills, Fritz Thorson, Myrtle Kelleher Gramer, Margaret Leonard, Gertrude Wilson, Lillian Chapman. Alice Dunn Smythe, Mary Kenney, Art Meagher, Ted Eyolfson and Walter Dougherty.

The minutes were well kept in a book and the last Secretary-Treasurer to report was Maud Hanson McPherson. Fritz Thorson led the singing at the banquets.

When W.C.A.S. closed in 1972 and we again had Park River High School, the W.C.A.S. Alumni joined the Park River High School Association and they are now known as "Aggie Alumni."

The Park River High School "All Class Reunion" of 1976 was a big success and another is planned for 1984, Centennial Year.



About 1933; W.C.A.S. capacity crowd for FFA program

Operettas And Plays



1920

"Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch"

Standing, (l to r)

Lillian Kohnen, Ivan Spornitz, Eugenia Lovcil, Gilbert Lindgren, Blanche Conner, Ethel Peoples, Mildred Overbye,

Seated in front:

Myrtle Kelleher and Annie Magoon



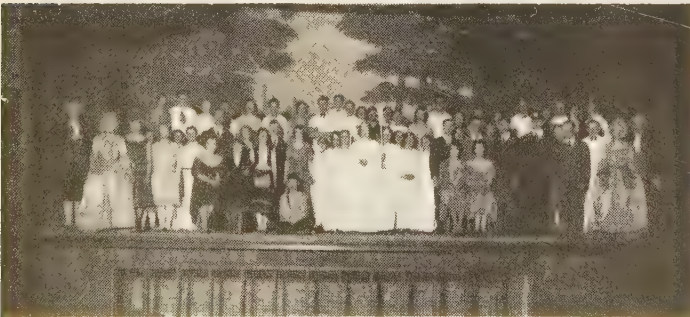
Operetta; "Melinka of Astrokan," 1934



Operetta; "The Feast of the Little Lanterns"



W.C.A.S. 1931



1930-31



1923



Sports

ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF SPORTS IN PARK RIVER

by Clarence Everson

The Indian natives were the first sportsmen in the region. They hunted wild game and birds with bow and arrow. This provided food for their survival. The stream provided good fishing also. Trappers took beaver and other fur-bearing animals from the river. Legends tell that Park River was so named because the Indians drove large herds of buffalo into a stockade or park on the river's edge. Piles of buffalo bones were a common sight in the fields.

Foot racing by youth across the country side was a great sport in the 1880s. The Catherwood boys from east of town were fast runners. Joe Catherwood was a sprinter in the 100-yard dash and mile run. Tom Catherwood ran swiftly over stubble fields. Andrew Catherwood became a strong distance runner. They raced men from Grafton with sizeable betting made on the outcome of these contests. These events started the intense rivalry between the two towns.

Horse racing was a big summertime attraction during the late 80s and gay 90s. Two race track events were held on the best all-weather one-half mile track in this part of the state. Some of the local horsemen were Jim Dougherty, Jake Birder, George McEwan, Ed Swarthout and the Randalls. Birder's barn still remains north of the hospital.

Baseball was played by the town team up on the fair grounds. Players did not use gloves in those days. The battery usually was Mike Kelleher, pitcher, and Joe Rippel, catcher; Gilman Stenerson, pitcher and Fred Warner, catcher.

Horse and buggy races following the river road to Grafton were exciting in the gay nineties.

In December, 1903, a Hockey Team was organized by Arthur Armstrong, Captain. There was practice every night from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Tennis was a popular sport. In July, 1903 there was a tennis tournament between Edinburg and Park River. Members of the Edinburg Club were: Mr. Robertson, Dr. Bell, Dr. Brandson and A. AOs. The Park River tennis team included: W.S. Weber, Joel Myers, C.H. Kaster and Frank Lord.

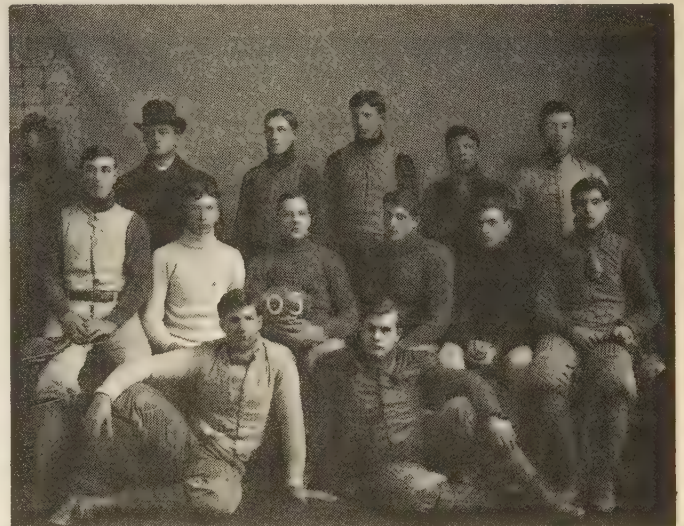
In August, 1904, a team came in to play baseball with a local team at the fair grounds. The foreigners were: Jail Bird Fatty, Box Car Blacky, Mulligan Shin, P.J. Murphy, Saginaw Curley, P.A. Slim, Shy Fatty, Overland Frenchy and St. Paul Kid.

In July, 1902, horse races were run at the Walsh County Fair on the 3rd. The purse was \$825.00; free for all- \$350.00; 2.25 minutes trot or pace, \$200.00; 3:00 minute trot or pace, \$150.00; running horse, \$75.00; running pony, \$50.00. \$5.00 to enter, \$5.00 to start. The purse was divided- 60 percent, 25 percent, 15 percent and 5 percent deducted from winners.

Bicycle riding was a very popular pastime. A local Bicycle Club constructed a banked one-third mile speed track inside the horse racing track.

The first Park River High School graduating class was in 1894. The PRHS football team performed in the yard behind the Windsor Hotel. Vilhjalmur Stefansson, UND student and Arctic explorer, was the first coach. In 1900 Park River lost to Grafton in

what perhaps was the first interscholastic (high school) football game played in North Dakota. In 1901 the University of North Dakota defeated Park River 5-0 in football. In 1905 the PRHS football team was champion of the Northeastern Red River Valley District. W.E. Hoover was the coach. William Warner, Clarence Thompson, ends; Gates Leedham, Halldor Halldorson and Worth Botsford, tackles; Lars Wamborn and Clair Kreitzberg, guards; Carl Foss, center; Dave Mills, quarterback; Carmen Douglas and Oscar Gullickson, halfbacks; Nels Levin, fullback.



1905 Park River High School Football Team

Seated in front: Gates Leedham and Halldor Halldorson

2nd Row: William Warner, Clair Kritchberg, Carl Foss, Lars Wamborn, Worth Botsford, Clarence Thompson

Back Row: William Hoover, Coach; Oscar Gullickson, Nels Levin, Dave Mills and Carman Douglas



1905 Track Team

Seated: Halldor Halldorson, Coach William Hoover, Clarence Thompson

Standing: Oscar Gullickson, Clinton Matteson, Gates Leedham, Carmen Douglas

In 1905, the Park River High School won the North Dakota Track Championship in Grand Forks. William Hoover was the coach. Oscar Gullickson, 220-yard dash, Clarence Thompson, Clinton Mattison, Gates Leedham, Carmen Douglas and Halldor Halldorson were the team.

Oscar Gullickson was an outstanding athlete. He played football track, baseball and hockey when he attended UND.

The 1906 PRHS football team was coached by B.A. Dunbar. The team was made up of William Warner, Gates Leedham, Worth Botsford, Lars Wambem, Clair Kreitzberg, Clarence Thompson, Oscar Gullickson, Clinton Arnot, Charles Honey, Elmer Finneseth, Milton Code, Herb Trovatten and Emil Levin. The 1908 football team was coached by J.F. Chesterfield. Members of the team were Arthur Gullickson, Edgar White, Walter Botsford, Allen Loughead, Allen Arnot, C.P. O'Brien, Jensen, Lawrence Plank, William Stevens, Harold Dougherty and Seymour Thompson.



Football Team - 1906

Front Row: Elmer Finneseth, Milton Code, Herb Trovatten, Emil Levin

2nd Row: Gates Leedham, Clinton Arnot, Clarence Thompson, Charles Honey, Worth Botsford

3rd Row: Principal Green, Lars Wambain, William Warner, Clair Kritchberg, Oscar Gullickson and B.A. Dunbar



1908 PRHS Football Team - Coach Chesterfield

Linemen: Arthur Gullickson, Edgar White, Allen Arnot, Allen Loughead, Walter Botsford, Jensen, C.P. O'Brien.

Backfield: Harold Dougherty, Seymour Thompson, Lawrence Plank and William Stevens

The 1909 PRHS football team was coached by Charles Holloway. The team: Bob Arnot, Dutch O'Brien, Walter Botsford, Butch Soll, Albert Martinek, Boots Loughead, Red Manning, Edgar White, Harold Dougherty and Oswald Brett. The 1910 team was comprised of Pete Halldorson, Arne Eyolfson, Allan Loughead, Chike O'Brien, Clarence Bateman, Percy McKay, Thurman Thompson, Walter Dougherty, William Stevens, Oswald Brett and Clifford Overbye.



1910 Park River High School Football Team

Line: Chike O'Brien, Pete Halldorson, Clarence Bateman, Percy McKay, Arnie Eyolfson, Thurman Thompson, Walter Dougherty.

Back: Oswald Brett, William Stevens, Clifford (Nemo) Overbye, and Allan Loughead

In 1910 Oswald Brett set a North Dakota High School track record for the 120-yard high hurdles, 16 and two-thirds seconds at the UND track at Grand Forks.

1910 was the year the merchants sponsored the baseball club. They hired semi-pro players to perform on the team. They lost some fourteen hundred dollars on this venture.

The 1910 hockey team, comprised of seven players in those days, played in the Northwest Hockey League. Grand Forks, Grafton, Crookston, Devils Lake and Canadian teams were members. Frank Smith, Finneseth and Gullickson played on the outdoor rink near the township hall.

The First PRHS basketball team, 1910-11, played in the old Ford garage on a site presently housing the Service Cleaners. The players were Palmer Overbye, Johann Halldorson, Chike O'Brien, Allan Loughead and Leslie Ramsey. At that time there was a jump ball at the center after every basket. One good shooter shot all of the free throws.

In 1910 a bowling alley was started in a building where the post office is now located. Theodore Loftsgard, a kegger then, is still an active bowler.

The 1913 PRHS football team lost to Grand Forks- 54-0, for the North Dakota High School Football Championship. Oscar Gullickson coached the team. Members of the team were Chike O'Brien, Thurman Thompson, Johann Halldorson, Gordon McLaughlin, John McEachern, Pete Halldorson, Bob Young, Vernon Parke, Lloyd Walstrom, Stanley Trovatten, Herman Skala, Friday Simmer, Elmer Skala, Lester Mullineaux and Arthur Gullickson.

In 1914 the PRHS team coached by Jack Harris won the North Dakota State High School Football championship by defeating Grand Forks 7-0. The 1914-15 PRHS basketball team won the Northeast District Championship. They lost to Minot, 19-28, in the North Dakota State High School tournament in Grand Forks. The 1915 PRHS won the North Dakota State Football title as a result of a scoreless tie with Grand Forks, defeating Casselton.



1913 Football Team

Seated on Floor: Lester Mullineaux, Friday Simmer, Vernon Parke, Thurman Thompson

2nd Row: Stanley Trovatten, Pete Halldorson, Bob Young, Herman Skala, John McEachern, Gordon C. McLaughlin

Back Row: Coach Oscar Gullickson, Chike O'Brien, J. Halldorson, Art Gullickson, Elmer Skala, Lloyd Walstrom



1914 Football Team - Park River High School North Dakota Champions

Front Row: Lawrence Overbye, Emmett O'Hara, Fred Walstrom, Friday Simmer

Middle Row: James Brett, John McEachern, Herman Skala, Art Gullickson, John Skala, Albert Schufletowski, Myron Bateman

Back Row: Coach Jack Harris, Julius Hallderson, Robert Young, Gordon McLaughlin, Lester Mullineaux, Guy Hilleboe

Nick "Friday" Simmer was a stand-out athlete in football, basketball and baseball. Friday played on the Great Lakes Navy team and professional ball for Iron Mountain, Michigan.

In 1913 the Walsh County Agricultural and Training School was opened- the only school of its kind in North Dakota- and in the school year of 1915-16, a basketball team was organized with George Hargrave as coach, Dave Mills as assistant coach and referee. They wore blue jerseys and white trunks. They defeated the PRHS team by one point in a hotly contested game.

In 1916 the PRHS won the North Dakota High School Football championship the third straight year, defeating Lidgerwood in Fargo. The team was coached by A.M. Cunningham. (Mrs. Thora Knutson supplied these records from her high school year books).



Special Train to carry Park River Fans to watch the championship team play



Basketball Team - 1915

Roy Scidmore, Arthur Gullickson, Nick (Friday) Simmer, Lester Mullineaux, Harry Overbye

L'Alier Park on the river just east of the railroad bridge was a fun place in the summer. Cool, clear springs flowed from the bank. Swimming, diving and canoe riding took place.



1916 Championship PRHS Football Team

Front Row: James Brett, Arnold Hasle, Lawrence Overbye and Kenneth Eaton

Second Row: Paul Farup, Nick Gergen, John McEachern, Harry Overbye, Fritz Thorson

Back Row: A.M. Cunningham, Coach, Arnie Eyolfson, Art Meagher, John Bateman, Clinton Martyn and Mike Bateman

ATHLETICS



ATHLETIC BOARD

President	John McEachern
Vice President	John Dunn
Secretary	Lina Landsborough
Treasurer	Miss S. Olson
Student Manager	Leland Taylor
Property Manager	Kenneth Eaton
Faculty Manager	Coach A. M. Cunningham

The past year marks another page in our athletic journal. Three years in succession we have brought home the State Championship in football. This year Coach Cunningham worked under the handicap of not having many experienced players, but with good earnest practice on the part of the players together with the co-operation of the alumni and citizens he developed a snappy eleven-man team.

The athletic association is largely responsible for the increased interest in athletics for through them all sports from the financial standpoint were made possible. Much credit is due to Supt. Davenport for his far-sightedness in obtaining a full schedule before the season opened.

Since athletics in this school are only secondary to studies and in no way conflicted with the higher ideals of education we feel sure that the citizens will never fail to heartily support all forms of the sport. The school in return assures them the cleanest athletics possible.

The Year in Foot Ball



Mr. A. M. Cunningham
(Coach)

Football seems to be the one sport in this school which holds the interest of all students. Our football records are among the best in the state and we believe they will always remain so.

At the beginning of the term, Coach A. M. Cunningham arrived from Ohio. All the fellows were out the first night except Jim and Harry who had not yet entered school. The team started under the coaching of Mr. Cunningham with Lawrence Overbye quarterback, Myron Bateman fullback, Nick Gergen and Clinton Martyn halfbacks, Arthur Meagher center, John Bateman and Paul Farup guards, Arne Eyolfson and John McEachern tacklers and Arnold Hasle and Frithjof Thorson ends. John McEachern was elected captain and James Brett and Harry Overbye were placed at ends so that our lineup was complete in every detail. After many nights of good hard practice the team was ready for their first game. A few men were rather nervous but through the experience and advice of the older players soon became confident of an easy victory.

MODEL HIGH SCHOOL GAME

On October 7, the Model High School team arrived on the noon train and were feeling a little confident of the game. The game was called at 2:30 before a fair sized crowd. At the very beginning, Park River started with a rush and lots of fighting spirit and in about the first two minutes of play had the ball over the line for a touchdown. Every player on their team was full of pep and fight and were too confident of winning. After the first touchdown our team seemed to have everything its own way and kept piling up points with little effort on the part of any player. Soon the Model High team seemed to lose heart and towards the end of the game our team was able to make a touchdown any time they wished. When the whistle blew Park River had piled up 70 points while the Model High team had not scored a single point.

Our team seemed to take on a confidence from this victory that remained with them until the end of the season.

RED LAKE FALLS GAME

The Red Lake Falls team pulled into Park River on Saturday, October 14. There were no boosters with them so we didn't hear many yells because they needed their wind for the game.

The game was called by the referee at the regular time and started off like a whirlwind. After a few minutes of play we had made a touchdown. This did not seem to bother the opponents however, because they came back at us with all the firmer determination to win. But they soon lost hope after we had made five or six touchdowns in succession. The first half ended with the score about thirty to nothing. The second half started with both teams again at their best. Park River was first to make a touchdown this time too, and the other team didn't get a smell during the whole half. The game ended with a score of 61 to 0 in our favor.

MICHIGAN CITY GAME

October the 21st turned out to be a very cold, wet day. It had snowed during the week and had now started to melt. The field was mud from one end to the other, yet our fellows got into the game regardless of a little mud that soap and water could remove. Rumors had gone around that the game would not be played but Michigan City arrived on the noon train so that the game was a certainty. They looked pretty big before the game but we found the bigger they are the harder they fall.

The game started at 2:30 with a small crowd of spectators. The whistle blew and both teams came down the field as fast as they could, half sliding and half running. We held to our old record of getting a touchdown before two minutes of play. Every time we got the ball we marched through for a touchdown, while the other team had a hard time to retain their feet. Every man on both sides was covered with mud and everyone was glad when the game was over. The game ended with a score of 127 to 0 which made it a very one-sided game for the spectators to witness.

LANGDON GAME

On the morning of October 28, the freight came in from the north bringing the Langdon football team together with a few boosters. They must have had the buck-fever or else they were afraid of us because they got off at the coal-chute instead of at the depot. They had reason to be afraid after the game because some of them got some rather hard use.

The game was called at 10 o'clock. After the first kick-off the fight began in earnest. Langdon showed more fighting spirit than any team this year. But with all their hard struggling and gains Park River broke up their plays and captured the ball. Then things turned completely around and our team turned down the field for a touchdown. Once in a great while our goal was in danger but the team held like a stone wall and Langdon was unable to penetrate our strong defense. Park River kept putting the ball across the line until at the end we had piled up a score of 38 to 0.

The ground was hard and rough and this kept the game from being as good as it might have been. As soon as the game was over Langdon left for the noon train in order to make connections without a stop-over here. They had felt too sure of the game but found out to their sorrow that they didn't have a show and that Park River had a mighty fast team.

GRAFTON GAME

November 4 found us already to leave for Grafton, where we were virtually to play for the State Championship in Football. We had heard rumors that Grafton had a fast team and that they were sure they would beat us easily. All the towns around here thought we had met our Waterloo but our team never lost confidence.

We left Park River about one o'clock in three cars. The day was fine and everyone refreshed after the ride. Everyone knew they were going to fight their hardest in this game in order to win so could hardly wait till the game was called.

At 2:30 the time was called, the game was ready to start. Both teams lined up while many ideas of the outcome filled the minds of the spectators. The whistle blew and Nick Gergen kicked the ball with the whole team following as fast as their feet could take them. Then they began the hardest struggle that had ever been fought in either town for many a year. The ball was kept going from one goal to another and both teams were unable to get advantage of the other. After a few minutes of play Grafton started down the field and it seemed as if nothing could stop them. They kept going until they placed the ball behind our goal for a touchdown. This was the first time Park River had been scored on for three years in succession. Yet our team did not get yellow and quit. The first quarter ended with Park River behind, Grafton leading by a score of 7 to 0.

The second quarter our team came right back at them and this time things changed. Park River made a touchdown in a few minutes and tied the score. This gave Grafton a new idea for they thought the game practically won. The first half ended with a score of 7 to 7.

Everyone was in an uproar and excitement. People were yelling and jumping up and down and some have admitted that their enthusiasm rather got away with them.

The second half started and in the early part of it Park River made a touchdown. This began to take pep out of the Grafton team and when another touchdown was made their pep had practically left them. They seemed to have lost hope from then on and the game ended with a score of 26 to 7 in favor of Park River.

This was the best game we had ever played for it takes a strong team to turn defeat into victory. We believe it is the hardest thing for any team to do and that it takes backbone and brains to do it.

LINE UP

PLAYERS AND THEIR POSITIONS

James Brett, (Jimmy)	Left End
John McEachern, (Kid Captain)	Tackle
John Bateman, (Johnny)	Guard
Arthur Meagher, (Big foot)	Center
Paul Farup, (Bud)	Right Guard
Arne Eylofson, (Ice Chunk)	Tackle
Harry Overbye, (Gulkin)	End
Lawrence Overbye, (Pewee)	Quarter Back
Clinton Martyn, (Dewy)	Left Half
Myron Bateman, (Mike)	Fullback
Nickolas Gergen, (Gicken)	Right Half
Subs	
Fritz Thorson, Kenneth Eaton, Arnold Hasle, and Fordyce McConnell	

GAMES AND WHERE PLAYED

- Oct. 7, Park River, 70—Model High 0, at Park River.
Oct. 14, Park River 60—Red Lake Falls 0, at Park River.
Oct. 21, Park River 127—Michigan City 0, at Park River.
Oct. 28, Park River 38—Langdon 0, at Park River.
Nov. 4, Park River 26—Grafton 7, at Grafton.
Oct. 11, Park River (Champions) 39—Lidgerwood 0, at Fargo.

LIDGERWOOD GAME

Our team started from here to Lidgerwood on Friday, November 10, and ate dinner in Grafton. After dinner we missed Kid McEachern and later found out he had been left at Park River. Great anxiety was shown by all the team when they found out their captain had not come. But this soon left, for Kid came over in another car. This was first of the many experiences that befell us.

At 11:30 everyone was waiting at the depot in Grafton for our train to come. As the train pulled in we all made a rush and it was rather crowded until we had gotten settled down by Coach Cunningham and Supt. Davenport.

Many of the boys exhibited their talent in voice culture, others became acquainted with some young girls on the train, while some of the quieter ones read magazines. The rest of the trip passed without anything important except when we pulled into the largest city of Minnesota, Manitoba Junction. This city consists of one depot, two hotel signs, and a farm house. Everyone was disappointed in not being able to stay over for a day or two.

We at last reached Fargo at almost six o'clock that night and went to the Metropole Hotel. Here we were given meal tickets and rooms. After supper we were given an auto ride around the city and then taken to a fine show. The citizens of Fargo are good entertainers so we had a very pleasant time. After the show everyone was given strick orders to be in bed by 10 o'clock. Most of the fellows obeyed for they all knew they had a hard fight on the morrow.

The next day about 1 o'clock we took a street car for the Agricultural College and arrived in plenty of time to dress without hurrying. Both teams went out on the field and began to warm up. At 2:30 the game was called and both teams lined up. The ball was kicked and the game began. It was not long before Park River had the ball over for a touchdown. Lidgerwood played on the defensive most of the time but made several good gains on fake plays but were not able to make a touchdown. The teams both played hard and their best but Park River won by a score of 39 to 0.

The next day we started for home and everybody seemed happy over the outcome of the season for we had won the State Championship in football for three years in succession. Sunday night we arrived at Grafton where Park River people met us with cars and we got back to old Park River.

This ended our football season and we had won the state honors. This year was the most successful our school has ever had, there being only one team that scored on us.

In 1917 many young athletes enlisted in the service when World War I started. Paul Farup did not return.

In 1918 school was closed for 9 weeks because of the flu epidemic and the football schedule was cancelled.

In 1918-19 the Park River High School played basketball in the Thompson Building (presently occupied by the L.B. Hartz Store). They lost to Petersburg in the district who went on to the state championship. The coach was Leonard A. Moe. The players were Husky Gates, Harold Church, Arthur Meagher, Reuben Johnson, Ralph Robertson, Duncan Sharpe and Valdorf Moe.



PRHS Basketball Team - 1919

Front Row: Clifford Gates, Arthur Meagher, Harold Church

Standing: Gilbert Lindgren, Reuben Johnson, Superintendent Moe, Ralph Robertson, Woodie Moe

The 1919 PRHS track team was coached by George W. Hauser, Minnesota football player who later coached the Gopher team. The players were Arthur Meagher, Ivan Spornitz, Gilbert Lindgren, Fordyce McConnell, Valdorf Moe and Irvine Iverslie.



1920 PRHS Basketball Team

Coach Godfrey, Barney Scidmore, Rueben Johnson, Arthur Meagher, Harvey Alm, Ted Eyolfson, Hutton Young, Pete Gergen

The 1920 WCAS basketball team played as a sub-collegiate team. The three commercial rooms on the top floor of WCAS served as a gym. The coach was C.B. Settersburg.

The 1920 Park River baseball club played in the fast Red River Valley League with teams from Grafton (Happy Chandler), Grand Forks, Neche and Gretna, Canada. Some of the players on the team were Simmer, Walter Dougherty, O'Reilly and Snyder.

Pete Gergen was a huskily built athlete, football and basketball star. He was an all-state player with Grafton and captain of the North Dakota State football team.

In 1921 the PRHS brought in players from other towns. Gustafson from Adams was outstanding. The coach, Robert Stevenson, went on to coach DePaul University in Chicago and played professional baseball.



WCAS Basketball Team - 1920-21

Seated: Melvin O. Johnson - Warren Tewksbury

Standing: Hutton Young, Oscar Knutson, Art Meagher, C.B. Setterberg, Gustav Momerak

When C.B. Setterburg was coach of the WCAS basketball team in 1920-21 the games were played in the assembly hall of WCAS that was used as a gym. The team was Oscar Knutson, Melvin Johnson, Arthur Meagher, Warren Tewksbury, Hutton Young and Gus Momerak. Arthur Meagher was called 'Big Foot' and he was a lanky player. He played football, basketball, track at PRHS and later with WCAS.

The Park River school burned during the holiday vacation, on January 2, 1921. The new, modern brick building was opened in 1923.



Park River High School Football Team - 1921

Front Row: Lew Young, Ernest Alm, Neil Marifjeren, Dick Overbye, Harold Johnson, Jay Bates Archie Johnson

Back Row: Bud Walstrom, Pete Gergen, Ernest Gustafson, Bill Peoples, Glenn Brett, Coach Nick Simmer

In 1923 the PRHS track team was reported in the "High-eye" to be Ernie Gustafson, Lou Young, Martel Overbye, Vivian Kelleher, Lawrence Ferguson and Bill Peoples. The PRHS coach was Sam Robertson. The Play Day annual Walsh County School track meet was held in the baseball diamond.

July, 1923- The Park River Golf Club was organized. C.D. Lord was president, Harold King, secretary-treasurer. The committee on constitution and by-laws were Dr. Smith, C.E. Birder and Dr. Plunkett. There are about 15 charter members. A course had been laid out by the assistant professional Rex Ehlers of Alexandria, Minn., on the David Aitken farm north of the city. There was enthusiastic support from leading business and professional people.

In 1925 the WCAS became a member of the North Dakota State High School League.



WCAS Basketball Team - 1922

Gustav Momerak, Coach C.B. Setterberg, Burleson Hobbs, Warren Tewksbury, Walter Thompson, Chester Johnson, Henry Olson



WCAS 1922 - 23 Basketball Team

Seated: Art Meagher, Glenn Brett, Bill Peoples, Red Alm

Standing: Lloyd Gullickson, Art McIntyre, Pete Gergen, Jay Bates, Coach Jamison



1922 PRHS Basketball Team

Seated: Glenn Brett, Pete Gergen, Jay Bates, Ernest Alm

Standing: Lew Young, Arthur McIntyre, Dick Overbye, Coach Rev. Foley



Front Row: Sonny Kelleher, G. Thomasson, Gunder Momerak, Glenn Brett, Ed Dahlen

Back Row: Lloyd Gullickson, Coach Oscar Hansen and Lloyd Walstrom

1925-26-The WCAS basketball team won the Second District Tournament. They were coached by Oscar L. Hanson. The players were Lloyd Gullickson, Larus Thomasson, Gamliel Thomasson, Lloyd Edwards and Tom Wright.

The 1925-26 PRHS basketball team was coached by Pete Gergen. The players were Jack McPherson, Lavern Shepherd, John Lohse, Alex Meagher, Norman McPherson and Curley Shepherd.



1926 -27 PRHS Basketball Team

Seated: Frank Walker, Jack McPherson, Curly Shepherd, Melving Hobbs, John Edwards

Standing: Duncan Meagher, Coach H.H. Fross, Clarence Shepherd, Kenneth Larson

The 1926-27 PRHS basketball team was coached by H.H. Fross. The players were Duncan Meagher, Frank Walker, Jack McPherson, Curley Shepherd, Kenneth Larson, Melvin Hobbs and John Edwards. The WCAS team was coached by Fred S. Wilson. The players were Lloyd Edwards, Larus Thomasson, Gamliel Thomasson, Thomas Wright, Harry Oaks and Joe Wright.



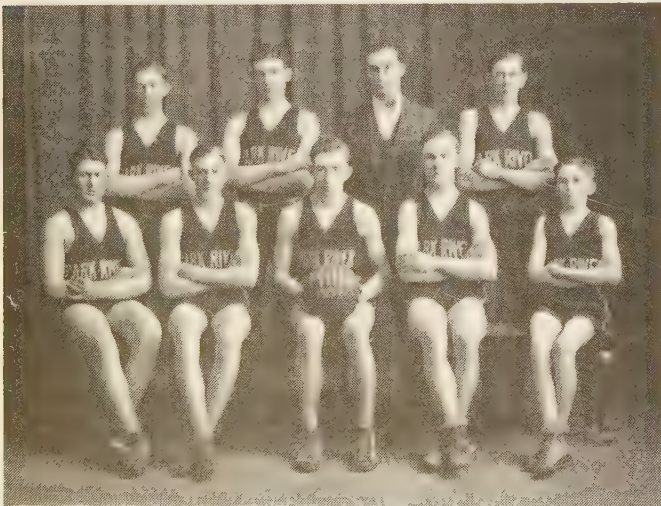
Cheerleaders - WCAS - 1926-27 THE WILDCATS

Annette Christianson, Gladys Martin, Elsie Conner, Dorothy Ford, Byrdie Clemetson, Blanche Oberman (advisor), Laura Warner, Esther Lindgren, Katherine Knutson, Johanna Pederson, Alice Rustan



Cheerleaders - March, 1927

Victor Lundeen, Gordon Magoon, Emery Hanson, Norman Brunsvold, Hamilton Berg, Alden Clemetson, George McKechnie, Forrel Hertzell, Chris Midgarden and John Ottum.

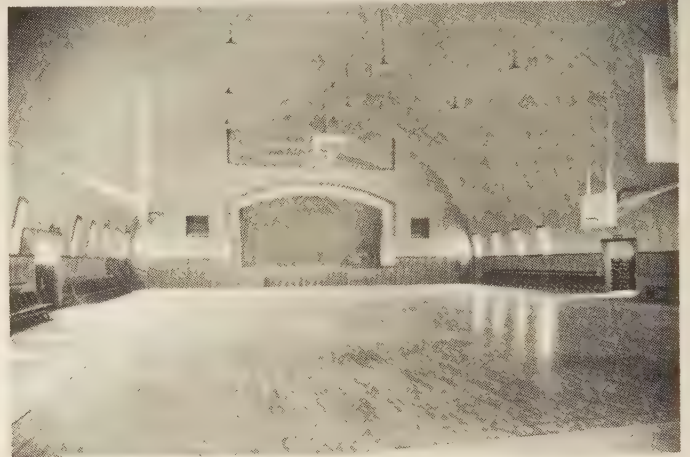


PRHS Boys Basketball Team - 1927-28

Front Row: Clifford Wright, Frank Walker, John McPherson, Edwin Herwick, Carroll Simcox
Back Row: Duncan Meagher, Melvin Hobbs, Coach H.H. Fross, George Schlenk

The 1927-28 PRHS team was coached by H.H. Fross. The basketball players were Frank Walker, Duncan Meagher, Jack McPherson, Melvin Hobbs, Bill Schlenk, Bones Wright and Edwin Herwick. The WCAS team coached by Fred Wilson was Lloyd Gullickson, Baldy Thomasson, Big Tommy Thomasson, Lloyd Edwards, Tom Wright, Harry Oaks and Eddie Swensrud. They wore orange colored uniforms with black trim and numbers. They were called the "Aggies."

In January 1928 the new gymnasium was opened. It was called the largest playing floor (high school) in the state. It measured 74'x148' with a 37' ceiling. Grand Forks Central won the first game played. Big Tommy Thomasson was an outstanding performer in basketball, baseball and football at North Dakota State.



Interior of the new gymnasium that was opened in January, 1928. A part of the WCAS complex.



1928 WCAS Boys Basketball Team

Front Row: Harry Oaks, Tom Wright, Lloyd Edwards, Eddie Swensrud, L. Thomasson
Standing: G. Thomasson, Coach Wilson, Lloyd Gullickson



WCAS 1928 - 29 Basketball Team

Front Row: Frank Bassingthwaite, Harry Oaks, Larus Thomasson, Olaf Walstad, Lloyd Davison
Standing: John Sturlaugson, Bernie Melstad, Coach Fred Wilson, Edwin Swensrud and Palmer Boe



PRHS 1928 - 29 Boys Basketball Team

Seated: Clinton Arnot, John Edwards, Clifford Wright and Charles Porter

Standing: Kenneth Larson, Coach H.H. Fross, Duncan Meagher, Frank Walker, Supt. Simcox, Joy Ratliff

The 1928-29 WCAS team played in the North Dakota High School tournament in Mandan, losing to Grand Forks, 14-34. The coach was Fred Wilson. Players were Larus Thomasson, Eddie Swensrud, Barney Melstad, Harry Oaks, Palmer Boe, Lloyd Davison, John Sturlaugson, Frank Bassingwaite and Olaf Walstad. They defeated PRHS for the district championship. The PRHS team was coached by H.H. Fross. The players were Frank Walker, Clinton Arnot, Duncan Meagher, Kenneth Larson, John Edwards, Joy Ratliff, Clifford Wright and Charles Porter.

The American Legion Junior baseball team, sponsored by the Paul Farup Post No. 147, was organized in 1928. The coaches were Al Lutjen and Jack Halberg. Some of the players were Bartley Warner, Herman Witasek (Lankin), S. Thorpe, Charles Porter, Rotnem, Harry Ferguson, Kenneth Erickson, Aafedt, Norman Larson, Gestner, Albert Zeman, Pfannsmith. Players from Lankin, Fordville and Gardar were permitted.

Herman Witasek, a blonde athlete from Lankin, was a great basketball player. He starred in the National High School Tournament in Chicago in 1930. He played for three years at UND. He played with the Oshkosh, Wisconsin All-Stars in the professional basketball league in the state in the late thirties and forties.

In 1929 the Park River Baseball Club played the last season on the old diamond surrounded by the wooden fence. This has since been developed for housing and is called Veterans Avenue.

The 1929-30 WCAS basketball team coached by John Haaland, won the district championship. The players were Lloyd Davison, Johnny Swanson, Barney Melstad, Palmer Boe, Ernest Lien, Stoney Thomasson, Charles Hodgins, Ervin Knoff and Archie Olson. The team then for the PRHS was coached by Cy McCreary. The players were Clinton Arnot, Charles Porter, Bill Schlenk, Joy Ratliff, John Edwards, Ralph Leonard, Kenneth Larson, Bones Wright and Edwin Herwick. The old championship teams' banners and pennants hung on the walls of the high school gymnasium.

In 1930 a beautiful new park (110 acres) was laid out and enclosed with a white posted fence on the north edge of town along both sides of the river. It was named River Park. The spanking new baseball diamond, complete with two dug-outs, was constructed on the north edge of the park. On October 13, 1930, a rainy Saturday afternoon, Park River's great sporting



WCAS 1929 - 30 Boys Basketball Team

Seated: Irvin Knoff, Stony Thomasson, Palmer Boe, Jack Swanson, Lloyd Davison

Standing: Arnold Olson, Barney Melstad, John Hovland, Coach Charles Hodgins, Ernest Lien



The Professional Team

The team of Professionals that played baseball against the Walsh County All - Stars - October 13, 1930

Seated in front: Jack Williams (Fargo), Charley Gehrninger, 2B, Detroit, unknown, Red Press, SS, St. Louis Browns

Seated on the Dug-out: Wally Schang, C, Philadelphia Athletics, Otto Miller, 3B Boston Red Sox, Lefty Grove, P, Philadelphia Athletics, Lefty O'Doul, LF, Philadelphia Phillies, Sam Rice, CF, Washington Senators, Dutch Henry, LHP, 1B, Chicago White Sox, Nick Altrack, P, OF, Washington Senators (later became the clown of baseball), Earl Whitehead, LHP, Detroit Tigers, Art Shires, Washington Senators, Roy Mack, Mgr., Philadelphia Athletics, Bing Miller, RF, Philadelphia Athletics, Bat Boy: Jerry Bider, bat boy at right unknown.

event was held. A barnstorming troupe of major league baseball stars played a rain shortened five inning game against a local team composed of players from Park River, Grafton, Lankin and Grand Forks. One long ball hit to the left field never was found. The manager was Ray Mack, son of the famous Connie Mack, Philadelphia Athletics; Bob "Lefty" Grove, Hall of Fame pitcher with the Philadelphia Athletics, winner of 300 American League games, pitched the first three innings. The story goes that the local batter, Murphy, stepped up to the plate. Grove threw him three fast balls. When Murphy returned to the dugout someone asked: "What's he got on it?" Murphy replied: "The first one looked like an egg, the next one like a pea, and the third one, I couldn't see a darn thing." Wally Schang, veteran catcher, replaced Mickey Cochrane who had become ill, behind the plate. Art "What a Man" Shires, colorful first base, Chicago White Sox, pitched the last two innings.



Walsh County All - Stars who played the professional team in Park River October 13, 1930

Name unknown (radio announcer from Fargo), Henry Everson, RF, Ferdie Bergh, Dick Overbye, LF, Stanley Zeman, Jack Zeman, Frank Ryan, Stanley Bergquam of Grafton, Tim Murphy, CF, Sunny Kelleher, 2B, Roy Scidmore, RF, Ernie (Red) Alm, SS, Hallie Hanson (Grafton)

Seated in front: Brandt, unknown, Leonard Shore, Pitcher from Grand Forks

Second baseman, Charley Gehringer, Detroit Tigers Hall of Fame, Shortstop Red Kress, St. Louis Browns, a Boston Red Sox player was on third base. Frank "Lefty" O'Doul, a great National League hitter, a Washington Senator, Bing Miller of the Philadelphia Athletics, Dutch Henry of the Chicago White Sox and Nick Altrack, a famous clown, patrolled the outfield.

Ferdie Bergh of Grafton, Leonard Shore of Grand Forks pitched for the local nine. Brandt of Omemee was catcher. At first base was "Fatty" Ryan, Sonny Kelleher played second base, Ernie Alm was at shortstop, a Grafton player was at third. Dick Overbye, Tim Murphy and Roy Scidmore roamed in the outfield.

The 1930-31 WCAS basketball team was coached by John Hovland. The players were Archie Olson, Arnie Johannson, forwards; Charles Hodgins, Center; Ervin Knoff, Stoney Thomasson, guards; Charles Lee, Red Peterson, Buckshot Bergman. The team lost to Devils Lake in the regional tournament.

The 1930-31 WCAS girls basketball team won six games without a loss.

Fritz Feske was the PRHS basketball coach in 1930-31. The players were Charles Porter, Harry Ferguson, Bill Schlenk, John Edwards, Joy Ratliff, Clinton Arnot, Earl Olson, Kenneth Erickson. They defeated a strong Lankin five. There was strong rivalry between the two schools.

On August 14 and 15, 1931, the American Legion Four States Regional Junior League Tournament was played here. Teams were from Winona, Minnesota, Cooperstown, N.D., Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and Watertown, S.D. Milwaukee defeated Winona, 3-2, for the championship.

In the fall of 1931 Coach Feske dressed the boys in old football uniforms. They drilled out in the school yard, but played no games.

In 1932 WCAS compiled the best record ever for Park River basketball. They were District Champions, won four games in three days. They lost to Devils Lake at the Regional play-offs. George Lee was the coach, the players were Charles Lee, Arne Johannson, Emmett Birk (first hook-shooter with both hands, later played with UND), Stoney Thomasson, Archie Olson, Charles Colwell, Red Peterson and John Foster. That year the girls team won 6, lost 1.



PRHS Basketball Team - 1931-32

Seated: James Robertson, Charles Porter, Joy Ratliff, Myron Carlen, Harry Ferguson

Standing: Earl Olson, Kenneth Erickson, Coach Fritz Feske, Garth White

The 1931-32 PRHS team was coached by Fritz Feske. Players were Charles Porter, Harry Ferguson, Garth White, Joy Ratliff, Kenneth Erickson, Earl Olson, Stub Warner, James Robertson and Myron Carlen.

The famous Harlem Globe Trotters played the Park River Independents at the WCAS gym in 1932. The Independents wore their classy black uniforms with the white skull and crossbones. Players were Lloyd Gullickson, Baldy Thomasson, John Lohse, Tom Wright, Sonny Kelleher and George Lee.

Boxing matches were held in a ring at the old city hall. Mike Nickolay was the promoter, Leonard Chapman, referee. Sailor Wayne Flint and brother, Roy, boxed Grand Forks fighters.

Also in 1932 the bearded House of David professional baseball team from Benton Harbor, Michigan played the local nine on a Sunday afternoon. The local players were John Lohse, Elton King, Fritz Feske, George Lee, Les Kelly, Tinhorn Johnson, Dick Overbye, Tim Murphy, Sonny Kelleher and Lloyd Gullickson. Remember Phillip Falter, the huge umpire? Albert Martinek was the score keeper.



WCAS Basketball Team - 1933

Front Row: George Cochran, Wallace Evenson, Glen Peterson, Charles Lee, Raymond Knoff

Back Row: Coach George Lee, Harold Liddle, Charles Colwell, Oscar Laaveg and John Foster

The 1932-33 WCAS basketball team was coached by George Lee. Players were Charles Lee, George Cochran, Charles Colwell, Glenn Peterson, Wallace Everson, John Foster, Raymond Knoff, Oscar Laaveg and Harold Liddle.

That year, the PRHS team called the "Satellites" wore white jerseys, red trunks, numbers and trim. The players were Harry Ferguson, Milton Warner, Earl Olson, Kenneth Erickson, James Robertson, Bob Arnot, John Arnot, Gorman King and Myron Carlen. They defeated WCAS by one point in the district tournament.



1932-33 PRHS 1933 Basketball Team

Seated: Gorman King, Milton Warner, Harry Ferguson, James Robertson, John Arnot

Standing: Kenneth Erickson, Robert Arnot, Coach Fritz Feske, Earl Olson

In June, 1933, the PRHS closed.

In May, 1933 the professional East Grand Forks "Colts" of the Northern League played a baseball game with Park River on a Sunday afternoon. Northern League President, Russell Voelz, and Park River Manager, Howard Bruce, were together on the side lines.

Young George Dibble was king on the golf course. He beat everyone, using only one iron club. Caddying was a way a boy could earn spending money.

In 1933 the National Youth Program (NYA), directed by Eddie Swensrud and Glenn Peterson, established sports events for young people. A horse shoe pitching rink was set up in the big park. Ice skating surface was flooded on the present site of Frank's Service Station. A recreation room was set up in the building now occupied by the Coast to Coast Store. Golden Glove boxing was held in the old city hall.

In 1933 the WCAS organized their first football team in the school's history. George Lee was the coach. Fridjon Thorleifson was the assistant. The team was made up of Victor Hultstrand, Harold Hylden, Dizzy Thompson, Sam Bornholdt, Earl Kirkeby, Oscar Blegan, Arden Burbidge, Orbin Erickson, Bob Long, John Arnot and Pisek Foerster, Gorman King, Harry Ferguson, Hans Klungness, Oscar Laaveg, Bob Plunkett, Floyd Lien, Danny Peterson, Bagne, Murray King and K. Peterson.

The 1933-34 WCAS basketball team, coached by George Lee, was: Oscar Laaveg, Milton Warner, George Cochran, John Arnot, Harry Ferguson, Harris Klungness, Joe Reeson, Raymond Knoff and Gorman King. Players from the defunct PRHS bolstered the team.

In 1934 the CCC dam, built in the western part of the park, furnished an area for swimming and diving, popular sports.

The 1934 WCAS football team was coached by George Lee. The



WCAS Football Team - 1933

Seated: Daniel Pederson, Harold Hylden, Floyd Lien, Harris Klungness, Harry Ferguson, A. Bayne, Oscar Laaveg, Robert Long

2nd Row: Murray King, O'Gorman King, Myron Carlen, Milton Warner, Victor Hultstrand, Coach George Lee, Arthur Forester, Robert Plunkett

3rd Row: Kenneth Peterson, Sam Bornholdt, Dennis Thompson, E. Kirkeby, John Arnot, Arden Burbidge, Allen Lindholm

Back Row: Oscar Blegan, Orbin Erickson



1934 WCAS Basketball Team

Seated: Raymond Knoff, George Cochran, Harry Ferguson, O'Gorman King, Clayton Reeson

Standing: Harris Klungness, John Arnot, Coach George Lee, Milton Warner, Oscar Laaveg

American Legion Junior baseball team was coached by Jack Halberg. The players were George Dibble, Stub Warner, Zip O'Brien, Honus (John) Kelner, Roy Neste, Gorman King, Joe Reeson, Clayton Everson and Olson of Fordville.

Boxing was held in the old city hall building. Heavy weight Emil Drevecky kayoed Big Barnes of the CCC Camp. Vern Malafa fought a Grand Forks opponent. Leonard Chapman refereed.

In 1935 Olsen's "Terrible Swedes", a traveling professional basketball team from Missouri defeated the colored New York Harlemites in the AC gym. Grover Cleveland Alexander, Hall of Fame National League pitcher, made a half time appearance.

The Park River Ski Club was formed. A high ski jump was built at the west end of the park. Skiers were Ivan Spornitz, Fritz Thorson, Dick Overbye, Clement Kenney, Orville Gullingsrude, Cotton Nelson. One Sunday afternoon a professional jumper from Minneapolis gave an exhibition..Sever Friedheim.

In March, 1935 the WCAS basketball team coached by George Lee played in the North Dakota High School Class "B" Tournament in Valley City. They lost to Aneta, but defeated Reeder for consolation honors. Clayton "Joe" Reeson, guard, was selected to the all-tournament team. The other players were Milton Warner, Victor Hultstrand, Harris Klungness, John Arnot, Oscar Laaveg, Gorman King, Harold Hylden and Rudy Jenson. The football team that year was coached by Lloyd Falgren. The players were Victor Hultstrand, Richard Johannson, Kenneth Williams, Harold Peoples, James Grieve, Dennis Thompson, Elmer Lovaason, Bob Lang, Kenneth Ford, Clinton Johannson, Carl Hankey, Rudolph Jensen, Juel Marifjeren, Gorman King, Tookie Johnson, Wallace Lien, Clayton Reeson, Cliff Nygard, Mark Mills, Murray King and Danny Peterson.



Ski - Tournament - 1935



1935 WCAS Basketball Team

Seated: Clayton Reeson, Milton Warner, Harris Klungness, O'Gorman King, Oscar Laaveg
Standing: Rudolph Jensen, John Arnot, Coach George Lee, Victor Hultstrand, Harold Hylden

The 1935-36 WCAS basketball team played in the North Dakota Class "A" basketball tournament in Bismarck, losing to Grafton, 21-32. The team was Rudy Jenson, Victor Hultstrand, Tookie Johnson, Delwin Liddle, Juel Marifjeren, Milton Warner, Cliff Nygard, Lawrence Storey, Daniel Peterson and Mark Mills.



Gunnar Rebne - Ski Tournament a professional skier from Norway

The 1936 WCAS football team was coached by Pinky Falgren. Rudolph Jensen, 170 pound end and center, was selected to the AP all-state High School Center spot.

In 1936-37 WCAS played in the North Dakota High School Class "A" basketball tournament in Bismarck. They lost to Wahpeton and Dickinson. Pinky Falgren was the coach.

An Independent team was organized. Players were Bones Odne, Bill Schlenk, Joe Reeson, Red Peterson, Ralph Leonard and Gilbert Stevens.

A boxing card held in the grade school gymnasium was Phil Dahl of Crystal defeating Obie Stenrod of Park River. Louie Delvo wrestled Hubert Moffett of Park River.

The fall of 1937 WCAS football team was coached by Pinky Falgren, assisted by Snooks Sullivan. The team was Kenneth Williams, Joe Laaveg, Arnold Troftgruben, Harding Tverberg, Coonie Hankey, Leland Ramsey, Duane Chapman, Tookie Johnson, Cliff Nygard, Murray King, Daley King and Kenneth Johannson.

The WCAS basketball team that year was coached by Pinky Falgren, assisted by Snooks Sullivan. The players were Tookie Johnson, Gander Anderson, Butch Williams, Lawrence Storey, Cliff Nygard, Daley King, Juel Marifjeren, Dan Dougherty, Harold Delvo and Cy Hertzell. Cliff Nygard was an outstanding play maker and dribbler. He played at North Dakota State.

April 21, 1937- a group of men have been engaged for several days in blowing stumps off the golf links and making other repairs necessary so that when the sun warms up everything will be lovely for the players.

1937-38- A local independent basketball league was formed and played a full schedule of games during the winter months. Teams were The Club, Meagher's Spudkings, Sell's Bar, Soil Erosion and AC Teachers.

In 1938 a men's softball league was sponsored by the businessmen.

The 1938 WCAS football team was coached by Harold (Snooks) Sullivan. Players were Joe Laaveg, Kenneth Williams, Gordon Twedt, Wallace Thompson, Curtis Gustafson, John Bornholdt, Clinton Strong and Czar Hertzell, Bob Johansson, Harold Delvo, Harold Anderson, Pat O'Brien, and Henry Ouradnik. Fullback Daly King made the All-State second team.

In 1938 there were three bowling alleys in Park River-Landsborough's, Sell's and Nickolay's. Earl Grammer was a North Dakota bowling champion. His wife and son, Earl, resided in Park River.

WCAS 1938-39 basketball team was coached by Harold Sullivan. The team was Harold Anderson, Henry Ouradnik, Kenneth Williams, Harold Delvo, Daley King, Joe Laaveg, Bill Spornitz, Czar Hertzell, Malcolm Storey and Pat O'Brien. They lost the District Championship to Langdon. Gander Anderson was selected on the all-tournament team.

In 1939 it was reported by the New York Times that Army Academy West Point Cadet Charles Colwell set several speed swimming records.

In 1939 a Mid-Walsh County Baseball League was formed.

In 1939 one hundred years of baseball was commemorated in the United States. The post office issued a special 3-cent stamp.

The 1939 WCAS football team was coached by Snooks Sullivan, his assistant was Fridjon Thorleifson. The teammates were: Joe Laaveg, Gordon Malm, Bill Skjerven, Paul Meberg, Curtis Gustafson, Robert Flaten, Allan Flaten, Herb Anderson, Czar Hertzell, John Bornholdt, Robert Johansen, Harold Delvo, Malcolm Storey, George McLaughlin, Daley King. King scored a touchdown on a 80-yard kick-off return. He starred at North Dakota State.

The 1939-40 WCAS basketball team was coached by Sullivan. His team was made up with the following players: Joe Laaveg, Bill Spornitz, Ellsworth Anderson, Bob Bygland, Bob Erickson, Harold Delvo, Bob Johaneson, Malcolm Storey. The Aggies beat Grafton twice in basketball games and a football game for the first time in the history of the school.

The 1940 WCAS football team, coached by Harold Sullivan, was made up with Dalton Hardy, Bill Skjerven, Ross Tallackson, Robert Flaten, Harvey Tallackson, Doug Kinsala, Don Kinsala, R. Klinger, Urby Meberg, Hilmer Malm, Demmy Halberg, Dennis Peterson, Blair Chapman, Tom Dougherty, Kater Knutson, Shorty Delvo, Squint Daley, Bob Deardorff, Earl Everson, Percy Walstad, Roland Bateman, Flaten, Irvine, Schumacher, Taintor and Dobmeier. The 1940-41 WCAS basketball team, (3-17), also coached by Sullivan, was Malcolm Storey, Norman Peterson, Bob Erickson, Dennis Pederson, Bob Deardorff, George Delling, Ross Tallackson, Harvey Tallackson, Percy Walstad, Demmy Halberg. The 1941 football team,

Sullivan as coach, was made up with Dalton Hardy, Ross Tallackson, Harvey Tallackson, Doug Kinsala, Don Kinsala, John Flaten, Demmy Halberg, Squint Daley, Dennis Peterson, Donald McKay, Bob Deardorff, Donald Flint, Tom Dougherty, Percy Walstad, Roland Bateman, Neil Gustafson, Dennis Peterson. Dennis made honorable mention to the all-state high school team.

December 7, 1941- Remember what happened that Sunday morning at Pearl Harbor? Many of our young men enlisted in the service. The supreme sacrifice was made by John Arnot, Jimmy Colwell, Wallace Evenson, Rudolph Jenson, John Kelner and John Kowalski.

The 1941-42 WCAS basketball team (6-10) was coached by Sullivan. The team: Tom Meagher, Bob Erickson, Harvey Tallackson, Donald McKay, George Delling, Ross Tallackson, Donald Flint, Duane Hylden, Neil Gustafson, Bob Deardorff.

That year the Lutheran Brotherhood "Blue Bombers" of Fargo defeated the Park River Independents in a basketball game on the AC floor.

The 1942 football team was Tommy Meagher, Duane Hylden, Harvey Tallackson, Llewellyn Lien, John Flaten, Don Kinsala, Gordon Greenwood, Pete Fail, Donald Flint, Donald McKay, Neil Gustafson, Roland Bateman, Harry Larson and Tom Dougherty. The 1942-43 basketball team (9-7) was made up of Tom Meagher, Duane Hylden, Harvey Tallackson, Donald Flint, George Delling, Gordon Greenwood, Ernie Magnusson, Tom Kelly and Neil Gustafson. The players on the 1943 football team were Tom Meagher, Duane Hylden, John Bures, Llewellyn Lien, John Flaten, Glenn Moen, Gordon Greenwood, Tom Kelly, Donald Flint, Harry Larson, Neil Gustafson, Ernie Magnusson and Ray Foerster.

The 1943-44 WCAS basketball team (10-9) was Gordon Greenwood, George Delling, Tom Meagher, Donald Flint, Neil Gustafson, Max Adams, Neil Bradburn, Ernie Magnusson, Tom Kelly, Lyle Severson, Duane Hylden. Duane was lost after the second game because of illness. Tom Meagher scored 220 points and was selected to the AP All-State High School Team

In 1944 WCAS football team was Tom Meagher, Chuck Flaten, Merle Daley, Neil Moen, Glenn Hodous, John Bures, Ed Gaarder, Frank Flynn, Harold Maxwell, Allyn Flint, Tom Kelly, Ray Foerster, Marvin Flaten, Glen Cudmore, Lawrence Penas, Lyle Severson and William Cole.

All these teams were coached by Harold "Snooks" Sullivan. His last year in Park River was for the 1944-45 WCAS basketball season. The team was Max Adams, Duane Hylden, Tom Meagher, Tom Kelly, Lyle Severson, Neil Bradburn, Harlan Ford, Clarence Parke, James Levin and Charles Lewis. Duane Hylden returned to the lineup at the start of the second semester. With five games left to play, Kelly injured a knee and was out of the lineup.

The 1945 WCAS football team was coached by Joe Teie. The players were Harlan Ford, Merle Daley, Dean Hardy, Neil Moen, Lee Bennington, Eddie Gaarder, John Bures, Charles Lewis, Allyn Flint, Jerome Berg, Glenn Cudmore, Marvin Flaten, Floyd Fail and Duane Hylden.

Mr. Teie also coached the 1945-46 WCAS basketball team (9-12). The players were Harlan Ford, Clarence Parke, Duane Hylden, John Bures, Charles Lewis, Floyd Fail, Marvin Flaten, Dean Hardy, James Levin and Allyn Flint. Duane Hylden scored 247 points in 15 games.

The 1946 WCAS football team was coached by Joe Teie, Wendell Wichmann, assistant. Players were Dean Hardy, Paul Hankey, Francis Forester, Francis Houdous, Ronald Thordarson, Lee Neste, Don Forester, Allyn Flint, Jerome Berg, Marvin Flaten, Glenn Cudmore, Harvey Momerak, Floyd Fail, Ed Gaarder.

The 1946-47 WCAS basketball team (2-19) coached by Joe Teie was made up with the following players: Marvin Flaten, Floyd Fail, Dean Hardy, Glenn Cudmore, Clarence Parke, Don Hylden, Phil Franze, Ken Haugen, Henry Skorheim and Ed Gaarder. The hope for the team rested upon the two returning sophomores, Tommy Colwell and Harold Moe who were moved to the "B" squad in midseason to gain experience playing with the next year's team. The team's biggest difficulty was not in defense, but in the lack of free scoring. Under the new East-West conference set-up for the state, the team journeyed to Fargo in March for the eastern division play-off. They were defeated by Grafton and Wahpeton.

In 1947 the Walsh County Amateur Baseball League was revived. There was no operation of the league during the war years. Park River players were Merle Onstad, Glenn Ford, Gordon Larson, Elmer Argetsinger, Cliff Nygard, and Harry Schildberger. The American Legion Post No. 147 continued its fine youth baseball program. George Williams was the coach.

In September, 1947, John Buchli began his first year as head coach for football at WCAS, Wendell Wichmann, assistant. Only five of the players were lettermen: Paul Hankey, Jerome Berg, Harvey Momerak, Ronald Thordarson and Lee Neste. Due to the labor conditions in the area, practice was irregular until school started, but Coach Buchli worked patiently with the boys and molded a team which ended the season with two victories, four defeats and one tie.

The 1947-48 WCAS basketball team (12-12) was coached by Wendell Wichmann. The season's outlook was dark with just two experienced lettermen, Harold Moe and Tom Colwell, returning. Wichmann took the previous year's B squad and three promising 8th graders, and using the two lettermen as a nucleus, he developed a fast, high-scoring aggregation by the end of the season. Players were Harold Moe, Earl Erickson, Tom Colwell, Tim Vavrosky, Francis Swehla, Darrel Anderson, Dick Nelson and the three eighth graders- George Williams, Duane Johnson and Billy Ferguson. The team lost to Wahpeton and Sacred Heart of Fargo in the Class A Eastern Play-off in Fargo. Lee Neste was the trainer.

The 1948 WCAS football team (4-3), Buchli and Wichmann coaches, was made up of the following players: Tim Vavrosky, George Williams, Art Tallackson, Elton Veralrud, Gary Longtin, Ronald Thordarson, Robert Dahl, Sleepy Anderson, quarterback Jeep Walstad, Earl Erickson and Harvey Momerak.

1948-49 WCAS basketball (16-7), coached by Wichmann, was Harold Moe, Duane Johnson, Tom Colwell who scored 240 points in 21 games, Tim Vavrosky, Earl Erickson, George Williams, Billy Ferguson, Sleepy Anderson, Wayne Walstad and Elton Veralrud. In the Class A Eastern Play-off in Fargo they lost to Valley City and Grand Forks.

The 1949 football team had a record of 3-2-2, coached by Buchli and Wichmann. Players were Tim Vavrosky, Art Tallackson, Elton Veralrud, Gary Longtin, Dean Parke, Gene Gaarder, Wayne Walstad, quarterback Earl Berger, Billy Ferguson, George Williams, Earl Erickson, Mickey Fail, Duane Gustafson, Everett Dibble, John Trygg, Billy Hardy, Robert Lewis, Dale Hardy, Pete Midgarden, Dale Longtin, Bob Williams and Erwin Gaschke.

Basketball for 1949-50 had a record of 9-14. The team lost to Fargo and Sacred Heart of Fargo in the Class A Eastern Play-offs. The '49 football season was one of the best the Aggies had in many years. They credited it to a football camp which Coach Buchli had taken the squad in August. The team placed three men on the All-State Honorable Mention: Tim Vavrosky, Earl Erickson and Gary Longtin. That year Tim Vavrosky led

the Aggies in scoring in basketball- 228 points. Duane Johnson was second with 151 points.

1950- WCAS football (6-2) players were Art Tallackson, John Trygg, Gary Longtin, Duane Gustafson, Gene Gaarder, Robert Lewis, Robert Williams, quarterback Earl Berger, Billy Ferguson, George Williams, Mickey Fail, Roland Flint, Everett Dibble, Allen Strand, Bob McDonald, John Ferguson, Dale Hardy, Pete Midgarden and Jack Darling.

The 1950-51 basketball season was a disappointing venture into the Class A circles. The Aggies, playing 16 Class A games, managed to win only two games. St. Leo's of Minot and their traditional rivals, Grafton. Additional disappointment came to the team when Coach Wichmann was called into the service with the National Guard early in January. The Aggies were placed into the capable hands of John Buchli who was appointed head basketball coach. Assisting Buchli in both basketball and football was Wallace Simonson who came to WCAS shortly after Wichmann left. Larry Knutson was with the team until he was sidelined because of illness. John Trygg was also sidelined with a broken toe but returned later to help out in the tournaments.

In the winter of 1950-51 the Walsh Curling Club was formed by Arthur Tallackson, Sr. Curling was on the ice at the Curling Club located seven miles east of town and on ice in the Fair Building in Park River.

The 1951 football team won two out of seven games played, they defeated the Grafton Spoilers and the Cavalier Tornadoes. Larry Larson was quarterback. Halfback George Williams and fullback Mickey Fail were given mention on the AP All-State Football team. George Williams, a representative senior, won 10 letters, 5 each in football and basketball. He played in 39 consecutive football games and 107 consecutive basketball games, scored 609 points, spent some 600 hours practicing. He was an American Legion baseball player in the summer months.

1946-50- The late Herb Thiele had successful years with the sports programs conducted in our Grade School. In 1951 he was an assistant coach for the football team at WCAS. The 1952 WCAS football team had a record of 2-6. Larry Larson was quarterback.

The 1952-53 basketball team (17-6), coached by Buchli and Simonson, won third place in the North Dakota Class A Tournament at UND in Grand Forks. They defeated the highly-favored Williston team, 69-53. Jimmy McPherson scored 30 points, a tournament individual record. Gladwin Jensen's defensive play was outstanding. They lost the semi-final game to Bismarck-St. Mary's in double overtime. They trimmed our long-time rival, Grafton, 61-43 for third place honors. This was perhaps the best team in the history of the school. The players were Jim McPherson, Harlan Anderson, John Trygg, Larry Larson, Gladwin Jensen, Jim Steward, Allen Strand, Joe Ferguson, Jack Walters, Franklyn Charon, Bing Larson and Tony Leonard. Two overtimes. How close to being State Champs.

In 1953 the American Legion Post No. 147 baseball team was active under Coach Leo Englerth during the summer.

Buchli and Simonson coached the 1953 WCAS football team. Players were Tony Leonard, Bing Larson, Gerald Puppe, Maurie Melstad, Duane Gorder, Franklyn Charon, David Flint, Don McKenzie, Gladwin Jensen, Jim Midgarden, Henry Schufletowski, Dick Skjerven and Gerald O'Keefe.

1953-54 WCAS basketball (6-15), John Buchli, coach. Players were Gerald O'Keefe, Bing Larson, Gene Busch, Gladwin Jensen, Don McKenzie, Tony Leonard, Franklyn Charon, Bernard Sundeen, Larry Maier and Ronnie Berger. When they played in the Class A Eastern Play-off Tournament they defeated Grafton 61-42 but lost to Fargo and Grand Forks.

1954- A Canadian troupe of professional men and women skaters gave a splendid performance of dancing and skating before an overflow of spectators in the Fair Building Arena.

1954- The Walsh Curling Bonspiel was won by the Howie Wood, Jr. Rink of Winnipeg.

1954- The Homme Dam became a fishing and boating area.

Ken Von Rueden coached the 1954 WCAS football team, assisted by Eddie Otto. They had a record of 4-4. Mr. Otto also coached the 1954-55 basketball team (19-6), assisted by Von Rueden. The football players were Tony Leonard, Ronnie Berger, Dick Skjerven, Gerald Puppe, Henry Schufletowski, Jim O'Keefe, Jack Frovarp, Bing Larson, Gladwin Jensen, Jimmy Midgarden, Gerald O'Keefe, Don McKenzie, Clark Penas, Larry Maier and Dick Hardy. The basketball players were Gladwin "Bear" Jensen, Tony Leonard, Gene Busch, Bing Larson, Jerry O'Keefe, Lyle Bina, Bernie Sundeen, Larry Maier, Rodney Busch, Ronnie Berger and Don McKenzie. The basketball team opened the North Dakota Class A Tournament at UND in Grand Forks defeating Bismarck, lost the semi-final game to Dickinson and lost to Williston to finish in fourth place. The Aggies won the North Dakota Class A Eastern Play-off championship defeating Valley City, Fargo and Grand Forks.

Ken Von Rueden, coach, and Eddie Otto, assistant coach, had their 1955 WCAS football team rack up a record of 2-6. The players were Bill Funk, Jack Frovarp, Bob Miller, Gerald Puppe, Dick Hardy, Larry Lindgren, Jerome Englerth, Donald Budish, quarterback Clark Penas (suffered a broken leg), Dennis Morstad, Jack Swanson, Jim O'Keefe, Eugene Troftgruben, Orvin Espelien, Alden Hultin, Rodney Busch, Harlan Papenfuss, Butch Porter, Jim Miller and Bill Kingsbury.

The 1955-56 basketball team (2-19) was made up of Jimmy Brandt, Rodney Busch, Cecil Chally, Eugene Troftgruben, Jack Swanson, Jerome Englerth, Dennis Risky, Ronald Grove, Dennis Morstad. In the Class A Eastern Play-offs in Fargo they lost to Grand Forks and Wahpeton.

The 1956 football team was coached by Myron Lempe. The players were Kenny Olafson, Jerome Englerth, Bill Kingsbury, Jim Miller, Kenneth (Butch) Porter, Allen Berg, Richard Clemenson, quarterback Dennis Morstad, Jim Midgarden, Alden Hultin, Jim Miller, Dale Monsebroten, Harvey Puppe, Dick Hardy, Duane Sturlaugson, Larry Johnson, David Larson and Orvin Espelien.

1956-57 basketball season had a record of 8-16. Eddie Otto was coach, Myron Lempe his assistant. Players were Cecil Chally, Cliff Busch, Ronnie Grove, Jerome Englerth, Jim Brandt, Rodney Busch, Jack Swanson, Dennis Risky and Keith Moe. They lost to Fargo and Shanley in the play-off in Fargo.

In 1957 William Galloway came to WCAS as the assistant coach to Myron Lempe. The players were Jerome Englerth, Richard Clemenson, Dale Monsebroten, Jim Miller, Ken Porter, Donald Budish, Duane Sturlaugson, Ron Burger, quarterback Dennis Morstad, Alden Hultin, Dan Felt, Orvin Espelien, Larry Johnson, Bob Miller, Rodney Busch and Harvey Puppe. The 1957-58 basketball season was a 5-15 record. Players were Jerome Englerth, Richard Clemenson, Rodney Busch, LeRoy Anderson, Jim Brandt, Jackie Swanson, Ron Hunking, Butch Porter, Dick Olson, Dennis Morstad, Alden Hultin and Don Budish. They lost to Wahpeton and Grafton in the play-offs in Fargo.

In 1959 Joe Wrigley was the football coach as well as coach of the track team. The football team was Richard Clemenson, Donald Budish, Dale Monsebroten, Harvey Puppe, Allen Orsund, Butch Porter, Ron Burger, Ronald Lee, Dennis Morstad, Dan Felt, Alden Hultin, David Larson, Joel Midgarden, Ray Parnell and Larry Johnson.

1958-59 basketball coached by William Galloway, Joe Wrigley, assistant, had a season of 3-18. The team lost to Fargo and Shanley at the play-off in Fargo.

The football team was made up of LeRoy Anderson, Larry Englerth, Harold Harris, Ron Lee, Dale Monsebroten, Harvey Puppe, Allen Orsund, Gary Hove, Ron Burger, Bill Erovick, Lewis Bergoin, Clarence Boettger, Leonard Momerak and quarterbacks Joel Midgarden and Chipper Larson, Larry Johnson, Ray Parnell, Laurie Budish, John Meagher, David Larson and Blair Lindgren. Their record was 3-4-1.

1959-60-basketball- Galloway and Wrigley as coaches, had a record of 11-14. The team lost to Minot, defeated St. Mary's of Bismarck and lost to Dickinson in the Class A Tournament in Grand Forks. LeRoy Anderson was selected on the All-East Tournament Team. The other players were Jay Olson, John Vorachek, Gary Vorachek, Dick Olson, Larry Englerth, Harold Harris, Ron Burger, Tom Grove, Ray Parnell, Joel Midgarden, Laurie Budish, John Meagher and Chipper Larson.

For the 1960 season for football (5-2) Gary Shipley was the coach, Galloway his assistant.

In August, 1960, the Paul Farup Post No. 147 American Legion team won the Class B championship by defeating Lisbon 4-3 in Hatton. Leo Englerth was coach of the team. Players were John Vorachek, Gary Vorachek, Jerome Englerth, Laurie Budish, LeRoy Anderson, Harold Harris, Larry Englerth, Ron Burger, Joel Midgarden, Chipper Larson, Dick Olson and Wayne Hove.

The 1960-61 WCAS basketball team (17-6) won third place in the North Dakota Class A Tournament in Grand Forks under the able coaching of William Galloway, Shipley as assistant. They defeated Harvey and Grand Forks, losing to Minot. LeRoy Anderson scored 69 points in three games to lead all tournament scorers. They led the Northeast Conference with 7 wins, 1 loss, undefeated at home, 8-0. The players were Gary Vorachek, Larry Englerth, Dick Olson, Jay Olson, Ron Burger, Laurie Budish, Blair Lindgren, Verne (Chipper) Larson, Les Hannesson, Terry Larson, Joel Midgarden, and LeRoy Anderson who won the State scoring honors- 18 games, 270 points, 20.7 points game average.



1961 North Dakota Class B Championship Team - Sponsored by American Legion Paul Farup Post No. 147

Front Row: Gary Budish, Roger Sobolik, Joel Midgarden, Lory

Budish, Chip Larson, Larry Clemetson, Cledis Carlson

Back Row: John Vorachek, Gary Vorachek, Larry Englerth, LeRoy Anderson, Harold Harris, Wayne Hove, Coach - Leo Englerth Bat Boy - Vorachek

The 1961 football team, member of the North Star Conference, was coached by Shipley, Galloway, assistant, racked up a record of 3-5. Players on the team were Leonard Momerak, Bob Erlandson, Larry Houser, Dewey Korynta, Lee Cudmore, Wayne Hove, Robert Dahl, Luverne Jagow, Larry Pohanka, Joe Midgarden, Dan Dub, Ricky Johnson, Milton Olson, Terry Larson, Donald Walstad, Dave Lunde, Bill Daley, Larry Englerth as quarterback and Chipper Larson. Halfbacks were Blair Lindgren, Les Hannesson, Robert Lutovsky, Jim Colwell and Gordon Smith. Fullbacks were Alan Mahrer, John Larson and Neil Midgarden.

1961 track coach was Gary Shipley.

The 1961-62 WCAS basketball season (11-10) was very successful. The Aggies played in their third straight N.D. Class A Tournament. They won the Northeast District Play-offs defeating Grand Forks and St. James. The team was Larry Englerth, (The only Aggie player to ever play in three State Class A Tournaments), Terry Larson, Harold Harris, Chipper Larson, Blair Lindgren, Les Hannesson, Louis Schufletowski, Lee Cudmore, Larry Clemetson, Alan Mahrer, David Lunde, Dick Schanilec and Bob Erlandson.

In 1962 the WCAS football team had a record of 2-6, Gary Shipley was the coach assisted by Galloway. Players were Larry Houser, Duane Korynta, Lee Cudmore, Larry Pohanka, Scott Dau, Dave Baumann, Gordy Smith, Alan Mahrer, Bill Daley, Leonard Momerak, Milton Olsen, Rick Johnson, Dave Lunde, John Larson, Louis Schufletowski, Bob Erlandson, Bruce Bork and Rich Schanilec.

1962-63 basketball, Galloway and Shipley as coaches, had a 5-14 season, They lost to St. James 43-49 in the Northeast Play-off game at UND.

The 1963 WCAS track team was coached by Gary Shipley. The 1963-64 basketball team racked up a season of 13-10 after the 1963 football team's record of 4-4. At the Northeast District Play-off games they defeated Larimore and Devils Lake and then lost to Grand Forks.

In June, 1964, the Varsity Golf, coached by Mr. Galloway, won the State Sand Green Tournament in Carrington. The golfers were Jerry Clemetson, Dave Stromberg, Greg Moan, Henry Green and David Cicha.

The 1964 football team had a record of 6-0-2, Shipley and Galloway as coaches. Players were John Thiele, Henry Green, Arnold Hanson, Darrell Ellingson, David Bina, Wayne Bruce, Joe Karas, Dennis Jelinek, David Laaveg, Tim Bauman, Richard Orsund, Gaylen Moe, Bob Alvestad, Greg Erovick, Gary Loftsgard, Wally Jensen, Jerry Bauman, Mike Mahrer, Bruce Bork, Dennis Hall, Shawn Kelly, Bill Suda, Jerry Maier. The team were the North Star Conference Co-champions (4-0-1). Richard Orsund and Bill Suda were the co-captains of the team. All conference players from the Aggie team were Dennis Hall, Gary Loftsgard, Wayne Bruce and Richard Orsund.

The 1964-65 basketball team were second in Conference play with an 18-4 record. In the District Tournament they defeated Grafton 76-62, then lost to Devils Lake, 50-63 and to Carrington, 65-74. Chuck Barrie was the Student Manager and the players were Wally Jensen, Henry Green, Johnny Thiele, Jerry Maier, Wayne Bruce, Greg Moan, Gary Loftsgard, David Cicha, Dennis Hall, David Laaveg, Jerry Clemetson, Bruce Bork, Sterling Hunking and John Larson.

The 1965 track coach was Gary Shipley and the team participated in eight meets. The Varsity Golf in its 9th year at WCAS was coached by Galloway. The activities included a trip to the State Sand Green Tournament at New Rockford where they received a 3rd place rating.

1965 WCAS football (4-4-1), Gary Shipley, coach; Fabian Shoults, Assistant, had three all-conference players; Jerry Maier Wally Jensen and Joe Karas. On October 8, 1965 they defeated Walhalla 27-0, the first game played on the new athletic field.

1965-66 WCAS basketball (2-18) was coached by Fabian Shoults, Shipley as assistant. The Aggies lost to Devils Lake in the Northeast District play-off game.

In February, 1966, WCAS played in the North Dakota High School Hockey Tournament in Grand Forks. Ken Melin coached the team to a 6-4-1 record. The Aggies lost to St. James and Devils Lake. This was the first year for hockey at WCAS. Players were Stephen Larson, Dave Bateman, Curtis Halvorson, Keith Papenfuss, Doug Thompson, Donald Wang, Student Manager Cecil Ward, Billy Hobbs, Jack Thompson, Dan Thompson, Gary Setness, Randy Flaten, Dave Stromberg and Jerry Ellefson.

Track coach was Shipley. The track meet was held on the new track field this year. The 1966 golf team coached by Fabian Shoults took second place to Carrington at the State Golf Meet, Sand Green, held at New Rockford. Team members were Tom Stromberg, Dave Stromberg, Charlie O'Regan, Gary Setness, Stuart Brunsvold, Russell Halvorson. Dave and Tom Stromberg took second in the doubles at the meet.

On October 28, 1966 the A.G. Strand Field was dedicated. The Aggies lost to Grafton. Two Aggies, Joe Karas and Bob Alvestad, were named to the all-conference football team as linemen.

The 1966-67 Hockey team had a season of 2-14, coached by Ken Melin. They were beaten in the North Dakota High School Hockey Tournament by St. James and Devils Lake. The 1966-67 basketball team (2-18), coached by Fabian Shoults, lost to St. James in the Northeast Regional play-off in Grafton.

1967 Track was coached by Gary Shipley.

August, 15, 1967, the Paul Farup American Legion Post No. 147 sponsored baseball team coached by Gary Vorachek won the North Dakota Class B Championship in Hettinger by defeating Elgin 11-2 and Ellendale 7-6 and then Casselton 4-3. The team had a 27-18 season. The players were Russell Halverson (MVP), Conrad Dvorak, Lon Everson, Buster Langowski, Sean Kelly, Kenny Barta, Charles O'Regan, Tom Johnson, Pat Daley, Duke Halverson, Tom Stromberg, Tim Bauman, Gary Budish, Mark Fagerholt and Marvin Dvorak.

1967 football, Gary Shipley and Fabian Shoults, coaches, had a record of 2-6.

1967-68 basketball, was coached by Fabian Shoults, Ted Livesay assistant. Players were Larry Cudmore, Pat Daley, Paul Lindgren, Gerald Bjornson, Ron Bjornson, Bob Hankey, Rolf Moan, Duke Halverson, Charley O'Regan, Sean Kelly, Mark Hunter, Dean Engebretson, Pat Falter and Frank Kachena. In the Northeast Region Play-off the Aggies were beaten by Red River, 48-67.

1968-Gary Shipley was the Track coach until Larry Houser took over.

1968- Football (1-7) was coached by Raymond Clark, assisted by Fabian Shoults and Larry Houser.

1968-69 Hockey- 2-6-2 was coached by Warren White, Rodney Collins and Reid Stromberg. Players were Wayne Staven, Mark Thompson, Brian Berg, Jack Thompson, Dave Bateman, Don Wang, Randy Johnson, Kevin Melin, Greg Flaten, Doug Thompson, Ross Spoonland, Jim Hankey and Jim Thompson. In February, 1969 the Aggies played in the North Dakota High School Hockey Tournament in Grand Forks. They lost to Fargo North 1-12 and Fargo South.

The 1968-69 Basketball season was 9-11, Fabian Shoults, coach, assisted by Larry Houser. The team players were Paul Lindgren, Duke Halverson, Ronnie Bjornson, Dean Engebretson, Don

Gunhus, Bob Hankey, Rolf Moan, Jerry Bjornson, Mark Hunter, Pat Falter, Tom Larson, Frank Kachena, Richard Clarens and David Cudmore. The Aggies lost to Grafton, 53-41 in the Northeast Regional Play-off.

The 1969 Football team was coached by Raymond Clark, assisted by Shoults and Houser. They had a record of 2-7. Players were Bob Hankey, Don Gunhus, Tim Daley, Mark Flaten, Rich Clarens, Wayne Staven, Loren Laugtug, Lynn Berg, Richard Erickson, James Kjelland, Dave Schanilec, Dean Engebretson, Ken Barta, Ernie Barta, Kelly, Barry Borgeson, David Cudmore, Dick Larson and Jim Silliman. When the team played on October 31, 1969 in the Junior Potato Bowl they lost to Rugby, 6-20.

The 1969-70 Hockey team had a record of 8-11, co-coaches were Warren White and Rodney Collins. They played in the North Dakota High School Tournament in Grand Forks, losing to Central 3-13 and Grafton.

1969-70 Basketball (15-8) Shoults and Houser, coaches; team was made up of Bob Hankey, Rick Clarens, Tim Daley, Don Gunhus, Dean Engebretson, Dave Cudmore, Phil Ronning, Loren Laugtug, Dwight Larson, Pat Falter, Mark Flaten, Gary Vavrosky and Duane Lindgren. In the Northeast District the Aggies defeated Larimore and Devils Lake, but lost to Grand Forks.

Football in 1970 was coached by Houser, assisted by Fabian Shoults and LeRoy Anderson. The team racked up a record of 7-1. Players were Rick Clarens, Don Gunhus, Dwight Larson, Mark Flaten, Tim Daley, Gary Gilbert, Hylden, Loren Laugtug, Rich Erickson, Lynn Berg, Cudmore, Brion Loftsgard, David Cudmore, Greg Flaten, Ernie Barta, Jim Silliman, Peter Hunter, Paul Samson, Jeff Hajicek and Thompson.

The 1970-71 Hockey team was coached by Ken Melin, 3-10-1. Skaters were Ernie Lien, Craig Walstad, Greg Flaten, Mark Thompson, Ross Spoonland, Brian Berg, Jim Thompson, Larry Flaten, Keith Ellingson, Rick Bateman, Kevin Melin, Jim Hankey, Don Elznic, Dale Borgeson, Mike Tverberg, Lynn Meberg, Brian Thompson, Doug Flaten, Donald Flaten. In February, 1971 at the North Dakota High School Hockey Tournament they lost to Grand Forks and Devils Lake.

Fabian Shoults coached the 1970-71 basketball team, Houser and Anderson assisted. This was the tallest team in the school's history: Don Gunhus, 6'3"; Rick Clarens, 6'3"; Tim Daley, 6'5½"; David Cudmore, 6'1", Brion Loftsgard, 5'10"; Mark Flaten, 6'5"; and Dwight Larson, Gary Vavrosky, Loren Laugtug and Duane Lindgren. The Aggies played in the North Dakota Class A Tournament in Bismarck. They lost to Minot and Shanley of Fargo. In the Northeast Region they defeated Cavalier and Langdon, losing to Red River. Don Gunhus was an All-state player, 27 games, 595 points, 23.4 game average. He was an outstanding athlete at WCAS. For three years he was a forward in basketball, an end in football, was on the track team, played American Legion baseball, and played regular basketball at UND for three years. LeRoy Anderson coached the 1971 track team.

The 1971 football team (6-3) was coached by Larry Houser, Shoults assisted. When they played on October 29, 1971 in the Junior Potato Bowl they defeated Langdon, 9-0. Ken Melin coached the 1971-72 hockey team (6-9). On February 14, 1972 the Aggies lost to Midway 1-4 in the play-off game.

The 1971-72 season for basketball (10-11) was coached by LeRoy Anderson and Houser. The Aggies lost to Langdon in the Northeast District Play-offs.

In 1972 David Quaife coached the track team.

On July 1, 1972 the WCAS became the Park River High School by vote of the Park River School Board No. 78. The athletic teams

will continue to be called the Park River Aggies. The 1972 PRHS football team (6-3) was coached by DuWayne Walz, assisted by Houser and Shoults. The players were Steve Carlson, John Voss, Randy Hajicek, Bob Ramsey, Mike Cudmore, Dan Hylden, Dean Meberg, Craig Walstad, Brion Loftsgard, Peter Hunter, Paul Samson, Bob Larson, Daryl Larson, Randy Hajicek, Gary Gilbert, Monty Martz, Bruce Laugtug, Jeff Hajicek, Gary Hajicek and Tom Ford. On October 27 the team defeated Rugby 22-0 in the Junior Potato Bowl game.

Don Korbl coached the 1972-73 PRHS hockey team (5-12). They played in the newly-formed Durum Conference. Skaters were Craig Walstad, Mike Tverberg, Brian Thompson, Greg Chromy, Kelly Waslaski, Brad Dahl, Keith Borgeson, Rick Thompson. They played in the North Dakota High School Hockey Tournament in Grand Forks losing to Devils Lake and Fargo North.

The coach for the 1972-73 PRHS basketball season was Frank Martz. The team had a record of 6-13. The players were Dan Hylden, Pete Hunter, Tim Lindgren, Brion Loftsgard, Bruce Laugtug, Gary Grinde, Steve Carlson, Randy Hajicek, Tom Ford, Bob Larson, Olson, Paul Samson and Marco Eklund. They lost to Larimore in the Regional Play-off.

Kenneth Bouck was the track coach for 1973. The track team was Greg Chromy, John Voss, Bruce Laugtug, Randy Hajicek, Mark Bennington. The girls were Barbara Hobbs and Brenda Cole. LeRoy Anderson coached the American Legion baseball team for the 1973 season.

1973- Park River High School Girls Basketball was played. Barbara Bryl was their coach. Players were Brenda Cole, Susan Eklund, Paula Wright, Susan Simmons, Patty Erovick, Mary Clarens, Laurie Kachena, Patty Galloway, Jill Borgeson, Jenny Midgarden, Colleen Kelly, Cheryl Tverberg and Bonnie Tverberg.

In 1973 the Hillcrest Golf Course was landscaped and grass greens installed.

The 1973 football coaches were Larry Houser and DuWayne Walz.

1973-74 basketball was coached by Tom Hagen.

The late Lawrence Evenson who has witnessed more athletic games beginning with the old high school than anyone in town was proclaimed the NUMBER ONE Aggie sports fan.

Don Korbl was coach of the 1973-74 hockey team. Skaters were Craig Walstad, Brian Thompson, Greg Chromy, Kent Johnson, Brad Dahl, Rick Thompson, Doug Vavrosky, Doug Flaten, Rick Trosen, Kelly Waslaski, Dean Flaten and Keith Borgeson.

1974- Girls Basketball (8-5), Barbara Bryl coach. Players were Jean Sobolik, Sharon Wright, Paula Wright, Diane Syrup, Laurie Kachena, Susan Simmons, Cheryl Tverberg, Bonnie Tverberg, Susan Eklund, Jill Borgeson and Terri Bakke.

1974 Football- Larry Houser and DuWayne Walz coaches. Players were Dave Voss, Scott Bakke, Greg Chromy, Doug Lewis, Don Flaten, Rock Welch, Curtis Dahl, Frank Bjornson, Jeff Lindgren, Danny Syrup, Karl Chromy, Terry Hajicek, John Thompson, Keith Borgeson and Casey Kjonaas.

The 1974-75 PRHS Hockey team (15-6) was coached by Don Korbl. Skaters were Bruce Ellingson, Russell Ramsey, Greg Chromy, Kent Johnson, Rock Welch, Rick Thompson, Tim Midgarden, Don Flaten, Karl Chromy, Mitch Dahl, Keith Onstad, Greg Ellingson, Kelly Waslaski, Tim Collins, Keith Borgeson, Don Vavrosky, Scott Ramsey, Jeff Walker and Brad Dahl. The team were the Durum Conference champions (9-1). In February, 1975 they played in the North Dakota High School Hockey Tournament in Grand Forks. They lost to Fargo South, 1-6, defeated Bismarck, 4-2, and were beaten by Fargo North 3-8.

1974-75 PRHS basketball (1-21), Tom Hagen, coach, assisted by DuWayne Walz. The football season for 1975 ended with a 2-7 record. Larry Houser, coach. Players were David Voss, Curtiss Dahl, Frank Bjornson, John Thompson, Larry Olson, Paul Halverson, Dan Syrup, Kevin Skavhaug, Steve Nielson, Casey Kjonaas, David Bakke, and Paul Engebretson. Tiny Hovet coached the 1975-76 basketball team (2-19). Players were Jeff Lindgren, Dan Syrup, Frank Bjornson (235 points), Russell Johnson, Paul Halverson, Kevin Skavhaug, Billy Galloway, Frank Hazelman, Paul Engebretson, Curt Dahl and Casev Kjonaas. In the Northeast Region they lost to Grand Forks Red River.

The 1975-76 Hockey team, coached by Don Korbl, had a record of 6-11-1. They lost the play-off game to Grand Forks, 2-4. The skaters were: Russell Ramsey, Mitch Dahl, Karl Chromy, Rock Welch, Greg Ellingson, Scot Ramsey, Tim Midgarden, Don Vavrosky, Luke Thompson and Jeff Walker.

On February 29, 1976 Ross Spoonland coached the Park River Class B Bantams (Hockey) to State Championship. They defeated Minot, 7-0. Skaters were Kevin Gieszler, John Ferguson, Scott Dub, Robert Onstad, Paul Spoonland, Shawn Dub, Perry Flaten, David Hankey, Toby Welch, Sam Midgarden, Roger Setness, Roger Johnson, Wes Midgarden, Kurt Espelien and Dave Lansing.

Football for the 1976 season was coached by Larry Houser. The 1976-77 Hockey team was coached by Don Korbl. Tiny Hovet coached the 1976-77 PRHS basketball team.

For Girls basketball in 1977 the players were Terri Bakke, Sandy DeLeon, Kari Hankey, Janell Troftgruben, Diane Borgeson, Carmen Borgeson, Cathy Vavrosky, Cheryl Anderson, Phyllis Hankey, Jane Thompson, Cheryl Weisz and Carmen Kelly. They were coached by Lon Enerson and had a season of 3-13.

When the PRHS football season ended they had a record of 4-6 for 1977. Larry Houser was the coach, assisted by Don Korbl. Players were Kevin Skavhaug, Luke Thompson, Jim Cudmore, John Coler, Dennis Ramsey, Brian Weisz, Todd Hylden, Doug Dahl, Colin Skavhaug, Dennis Kelly, Bob Meagher, Kurt Espelien, Dave Lansing, Toby Welch, Rich Lee, Roger Clemetson, Frank Bjornson, Greg Alkofer, Roger Setness, Jim Hanson, Owen Berg, Tim Moen, Jim Ferguson, Mark Samson, Mike Tesch, Peter Meberg, Peter Almen, Bob Gunhus.

The 1977-78 Hockey team was coached by Don Korbl. Players were Mike Bateman, Kevin Gieszler, Charles Chyle, Sam Midgarden, Toby Welch, Roger Setness, Shawn Dub, Dave Hankey, Dave Lansing, Perry Flaten, Kurt Espelien, Jim Cudmore, Jeff Walker, Luke Thompson, Scott Ramsey and Tim Midgarden. They lost in the Region Tournament to Grand Forks and Minot.

The 1977-78 basketball team was coached by Tiny Hovet, Lon Enerson assistant. In the Northeast Region Tournament the Aggies defeated Langdon, then lost to Grand Forks and Grafton.

Franklyn Bjornson, a 6'3" senior, won twelve letters--basketball, football and track. He also played American Legion baseball.

August 17, 1977- Dr. L.D. Loftsgard, president of NDSU announced that Pete Gergen is one of seven persons who were selected for induction into the sixth class of the NDSU Bison Athletic Hall of Fame. Pete was born in Park River in 1903 and was a three-time All-North Central conference basketball selection in 1929, 1930 and 1931.

The 1978 PRHS Football team (2-7) was coached by Larry Houser, assistants were Fabian Shoults and Don Korbl. Players were Bob Gunhus, Robert Hylden, Dennis Ramsey, Colin

Skavhaug, Doug Dahl, Kurt Espelien, Roger Clemetson, Bob Anderson, Todd Hylden, Bob Meagher, Greg Alkofer, Roger Setness, Tim Moen, Dale Wang, Jim Galloway, Shawn Dub and Jim Ferguson.

Jorgen Knutson coached the 1978 Girls basketball team. Players were Jane Thompson, Teresa Kachena, Mary Welch, Cheryl Weisz, Carol Momerak, Phyllis Hankey, Carmen Kelly, Susan Galloway, Jane Collins, Amy Flaten, Paige Sandy and Kathy Borgeson.

On October 12, 1978 Park River defeated Edinburg in the last basketball game played in the old round-roofed gymnasium. Paige Sandy scored the last field goal in the final seconds.

Park River High School now returned to the North Dakota Class B competition.

John Schmidt was the coach, Jorgen Knutson, assistant, for the 1978-79 basketball season. The record was 5-17.

On December 1, 1978, the first basketball game was played in the new modern gymnasium. Our Aggies lost to arch-rival Grafton, 47-59. Players were Robert Hylden, Bob Meagher, Jim Galloway, Todd Hylden, Don Garnaas, Greg Alkofer, Dean Halverson, Neil Weisz, Bill Alkofer, Jerrell Lindgren, Doug Dahl and Bob Gunhus.

The new gymnasium was dedicated on the night of January 2, 1979.

1978-79 Hockey- (8-12), Don Korbl, coach, Jay Johnson, assistant. Players were Mike Bateman, Perry Flaten, Roger Johnson, Shawn Dub, John Ferguson, Scott Dub, Craig Magnuson, Ron Thompson, Toby Welch, Wes Midgarden, Kurt Espelien, Roger Setness, Dave Lansing, Sam Midgarden, Rich Walker, Paul Spoonland, Dave Hankey and Kevin Gieszler. The Aggies lost to Grafton, 1-5 and Minot, 1-3, in Region Playoff, and defeated Bottineau, 12-1.

In March, 1979 the Park River team won the State Class B Bantam Hockey Championship by defeating Cando, 9-2. Dave Bateman was the coach, assisted by Mark Thompson. The team was made up of Jim Ferguson, Scott Dub, Steve O'Shea, Perry Sandy, Wes Midgarden, Todd Schmaltz, Tom Thompson, Thompson, Shawn Gieszler, Robert Onstad, Greg Espelien and Paul Spoonland.

In 1979 the PRHS Golf team won the North Dakota State Class B Championship in Larimore. Fabian Shoults was the coach.

The 1979 football team was coached by Fabian Shoults, assisted by Don Korbl. Some of the players on the team were, Robert Hylden, Todd Hylden, Wes Midgarden, Toby Welch, Kurt Espelien, Sam Midgarden, Dave Hankey, Shawn Dub, Greg Alkofer, Neil Weisz, Tim Moen, Roger Setness, Mark Kostohris, Roger Johnson and Richard Bruce. Their record was 5-2.

The 1979 Girls basketball team, coached by Jorgen Knutson, had a record of 5-2 in the district. Two Aggie girls were named to the all-district team: Jane Collins and Teresa Kachena. The senior members of the squad were Diane Borgeson, Tami Ramsey and Kathy Vavrosky.

The 1979-80 PRHS boys basketball team was coached by John Schmidt, Jorgen Knutson as assistant, had a record of 13-12. The team players were Robert Hylden, Bob Meagher, Todd Hylden, Greg Alkofer, Neil Weisz, Don Garnaas, Rick Bruce, Bill Alkofer, John Coler, Dale Wang and Allen Skjerven.

That same year for Hockey, Don Korbl, coach, had a record of 10-11. The seniors who skated were Toby Welch, Roger Setness, David Lansing, Perry Flaten, Tim Moen and Kurt Espelien. They took third in Conference.

March, 5, 6, 7, 1980 Park River hosted the Northeast Region Class A Basketball Tournament. Grand Forks Central defeated Red River of Grand Forks for the title.



Tim Sandy (8 years old) and Pete Rozelle, National Football Commissioner - January, 1980

In the fall of 1979 a little 8-year-old boy, Tim Sandy, put Park River on the map by competing in the Punt, Pass and Kick contest at the Super Bowl in Pasadena, CA. Tim's competition began in September, 1979 at Park River where he was sponsored by Erickson Ford of Park River. Tim won the local competition, then went to Devils Lake to compete for the Zone championship. He won and advanced to the District competition at Moorhead, MN. After that win he was measured and fitted for an official Minnesota Vikings football uniform which he wore when competing for the Area championship in Bloomington, MN. During the half-time of the Minnesota-Tampa Bay football game Tim clinched the Area championship and earned the right to represent the Vikings during the National Football Conference Competition in Tampa Bay, Florida. He competed against representatives from the other teams in the National Football Conference and during half-time of the Tampa Bay- Kansas City football game he became the only representative of the NFC division for the 8-year-old group. This meant that Tim would compete for the National Football League Championship during the Super Bowl game in Pasadena, CA. Tim and one other eight-year-old from the American Football Conference met at the 1980 Super Bowl-Tim had to settle for second place honors.

Tim was welcomed back by a fire truck shivaree through town and a party at the Curling Club after becoming the National Football League Runner-up. Park River is very proud of this fine young representative.

1979-80 The PRHS girls had their second year of volleyball, coached by Deb Swenson. Amy Flaten and Jane Collins were named all-conference players. Other team members were Susan Votava, Melaine Nelson, Renee Daley, Lisa Shoults, Darcie Seboe, Nancy Porter, Brenda Hobbs, Helen Cicha, Teresa Kachena, Carole Hajicek, LaDonna Miller and Marlene Johnson.

Bowling leagues for both men and women were very active during the season.

The Walsh Curling Club played their wintertime schedule.

In 1980 the PRHS won the North Dakota Golf championship under coach Fabian Shoults. The PRHS Track team for 1980 was coached by John Schmidt. Members of the team were John Coler, Bill Alkofer, Allen Skjerven, Mark Kostohris, Neil Weisz, Scott Dub, Robert Onstad, Perry Sandy, David Lipsh, Ronald Thompson, Jim Tesch and Greg Espelien.

1980- Tennis returned as a popular sport on the new court in the little park.

The 1980 PRHS Football team was coached by Fabian Shoults. The seniors playing on the team were Robert Hylden Jim Liddle, Jon Ferguson, Roger Johnson, Mark Kostohris, Rick Bruce, Greg Cicha, Dave Hankey, Craig Magnusson, Shawn Dub and Don Garnaas. The record was 5-4.

In 1980 the Softball leagues for both men and women were very popular under the lighting system for evening games.

Swimming in the Les Kelly Memorial Pool attracted people of all ages during the summer months.

1980- Tennis returned as a popular sport on the new court in the little park. The 1980 PRHS Football team was coached by Fabian Shoults. The seniors playing on the team were Robert Hylden, Jim Liddle, Jon Ferguson, Roger Johnson, Mark Kostohris, Rick Bruce, Greg Cicha, Dave Hankey, Craig Magnusson, Shawn Dub and Don Garnaas. The record was 5-4.

Jorgen Knutson coached the 1980 Girls Basketball (20-2). They were champions in Conference and District Nine and Runner-up in Region 3. Players were Nicole Midgarden, Val Honcik, Diann Clarens, Sheri Moe, Susan Fjestad, Lisa Shoults, Kris Alkofer, Brenda Hobbs, Jenny Kachena, Shelle Anderson, Angie Jelinek, Amy Flaten, Paige Sandy, Teresa Kachena, Jane Collins, Sue Galloway, Mary Welch. Only once before in the school history had a basketball team won twenty games in a season - the 1931-32 WCAS team had a record of 20-8.

Sport games are only as good as the officials who direct them. Recently Park River has produced Bill Galloway, Fabian Shoults, and Larry Houser who have been outstanding officials in State High School circles.

The 1980-81 PRHS basketball team, coached by John Schmidt, Jorgen Knutson, assistant, was made up of the following players, Brian Englerth, Steve Jacobson, Dale Pecka, Scott Kemp, Mark Kostohris, Neil Weisz, Doug Momerak, John Kemp, Greg Cicha, Robert Hylden, Rick Bruce, Don Garnaas and Tim Solseng.

The 1980-81 Hockey players, coached by Don Korbl, were Steve O'Shea, Scott Dub, Wes Midgarden, Robert Onstad, Perry Sandy, Tom Thompson, Todd Schmaltz, Greg Espelien, Shawn Gieszler, Allen Johnson, Jon Ferguson, Dave Hankey, Roger Johnson, Craig Magnusson, Ron Thompson and Shawn Dub. The only real disappointment for the team was their loss to Fargo Shanley in the play-off game which kept them from going to State. Shanley's winning goal came with five seconds left in regulation play. Russell Halverson coached the Paul Farup Post No. 147 American Legion baseball team in 1981. Some of the players were Dave Hankey, Scott Dub, Perry Sandy, Neil Weisz, Todd Hylden, John Kemp, Robert Hylden, Steve O'Shea, Brad Flaten and Tim Solseng. Vernon Halverson has served well as the Paul Farup Post 147 athletic officer for many years.

Again in 1981 the PRHS Golf team won the State Class B Championship under the leadership of Fabian Shoults.

The Women's Softball Association played their games on four diamonds in the big park in 1981.

Players on the 1981 PRHS football team (6-3), coached by Fabian Shoults and Don Korbl, were, Tim Solseng, Tom Alkofer, Perry Sandy, Mike Carlson, Todd Schmaltz, Jim Tesch, Dale Kosobud, S. Farrier, Steve Anderson, Scott Dub, J. Shoults, Greg Espelien, Neil Wiesz, Wes Midgarden, Jim Coler, Brad Flaten, Steve O'Shea, Wade Sandy, C. Botner, R. Herman, Roben Trosen, Todd Kjelland, S. Midgarden, Todd Clow, Joey Shoults, Steve Votava, A. Ramsey, R. Schildberger, B. Berg, Wes Welch, M. Cicha and Robert Porter.

Girls Basketball-1981 season; Jorgen Knutson, coach; Heidi Collins, Sheri Deleon, Diane Hankey, LaRae Syrup, Nancy

Porter, Lisa Shoults, Kris Alkofer, Michele Swartz, Amy Flaten, Angie Jelinek, Brenda Hobbs and Jenny Kachena. Their record was 8-9.

The 1981-82 PRHS basketball team (8-15) was coached by John Schmidt. Players were Tim Solseng, Steve Anderson, Brian Englerth, Neil Weisz, Scott Kemp, Tom Alkofer, Mike Carlson, Doug Momerak, Brad Flaten, Dale Pecka, Mark Greicar and James Coler. The Aggies took second place in District Nine.

In 1982 the Park Board Basketball program consisting of 12 teams was active on Saturdays throughout the winter months.

In 1982 The Walsh County Archery Club performed on their range north of town.

The 1981-82 PRHS Hockey team (12-7), Coach Don Korbl, had a season that was highlighted by defeating Grafton 4-3. Skaters were Steve O'Shea, Perry Sandy, Tom Thompson, Todd Schmaltz, Scott Dub, Wes Welch, Wes Midgarden, Robert Onstad, Shawn Gieszler, Greg Espelien, Scott Midgarden, Wade Sandy, Gary Helland, Allen Ramsey and Allen Johnson. Coach Korbl stated: "With only fifteen players, many young, this year went beyond our expectations. A key was the five seniors and the development of our young players." By taking first place in the West Region, the Aggies earned an automatic birth into the State Hockey Tournament held in Grand Forks. Park River was given two great honors, the first one went to Don Korbl as the "North Dakota State Class A Hockey Coach of the Year". The second one went to the PRHS fans for their sportsmanship, the "Spirit Award". In the State Tournament the Aggies lost to both Fargo South and Fargo Shanley.

The 1982 PRHS Track team was coached by John Schmidt. Some of the team members were Robert Onstad, Steve Anderson, Scott Dub, James Coler, Neil Weisz, Greg Espelien and Perry Sandy.

In 1982 the Golf team won the North Dakota State Class B Grass Greens Championship under coach Fabian Shoults. Golfers were Shawn Gieszler, Scott Kemp, Scott Dub, Jeff Shoults, Neil Weisz, Steve O'Shea, Kurt Christianson, Scott Midgarden, Tom Alkofer, Joey Shoults, Wade Sandy and Perry Sandy.

Scott Dub had an outstanding high school athlete's career in hockey, football, track, and golf as well as American Legion baseball. He played in the Amateur Midwest Hockey league at Sioux City, Iowa.

In August, 1982, the Paul Farup Post No. 147 American Legion team defeated Langdon 11-10 for the District Championship. Players were Steve O'Shea, Scott Dub, Perry Sandy, Scott Kemp, Neil Weisz, Wade Sandy, Rich Schildberger, Brad Flaten, Tim Solseng, Dale Kosobud and Gary Helland.

Jorgen Knutson coached the 1982 Girls basketball team (7-13). His players were Sheri DeLeon, Michele Swartz, Nancy Porter, Kris Alkofer, Diane Hankey, Brenda Hobbs, LaRae Syrup, Sandee Brandt, Kathy Kadlec, Kathy Hajicek, Heidi Collins, Jody Gaarder. In the semi-finals of District Nine, the Aggies lost in double overtime against Lankin, crushing their hopes for Region play.

1982 Football. Fabian Shoults, coach. Record, 3-6. Players were David Vorachek, Doug Grinde, John Erickson, Lee Liddle, Todd Clow, Robert Herman, Todd Kjelland, Richard Schildberger, Barry Clemetson, Brian Rostvet, Curtis Swartz, Scott Midgarden, Allan Ramsey, Robert Porter, Joe Shoults, Mark Greicar, Steve O'Shea, Steven Votava, Wes Welch, John Hajicek, Wade Sandy, Louie Schufletowski, Mike Midgarden, Brad Flaten, James Coler, Tom Alkofer, Greg Espelien, Gary Helland, Mike Dvorak, Dale Kosobud and Jim Tesch.

In September, 1982 the PRHS Hockey program was disbanded because of a player shortage. Coach Don Korbl and seven skaters, Steve O'Shea, Wade Sandy, Tom Thompson, Wes Welch,

Scott Midgarden, Greg Espelien and Gary Helland joined the Grafton High School sextet as a troupe of 'Spoiled Aggies'.

1982-83 PRHS Basketball- John Schmidt, coach, Jorgen Knutson, assistant. The team was made up of Brad Flaten, David Vorachek, Tom Alkofer, Jim Coler, Joey Shoults, Rich Schildberger, Todd Kjelland, Bob Porter, Curt Swartz, Markku Soukas, Robert Herman, Todd Clow, John Holand and Mark Greicar. The record was 3-19. The team lost to Fordville and Midway in the District Nine Tournament.

The Girls Volleyball season was very successful, coming out first in the conference tournament. Team members were Nancy Porter, Darcie Seboe, Brenda Hobbs, Xan Severson, Heidi Collins, Kathy Kadlec, Kathy Hajicek and Diane Hankey. Brenda Hobbs, Darcie Seboe and Nancy Porter were Tri-captains. Nancy Porter and Brenda Hobbs also received all-conference trophies along with being named MVP's.

In March, 1983 the North Dakota Class B PeeWee Hockey tournament was played in the Fair Building Arena. The host, Park River, coached by Don Swartz, won the championship.

The 1983 Track accomplishments were noted. Barry Clemetson and Heidi Collins qualified for the state track meet in Valley City after competition in the Region III meet in Grafton. Barry won second place with a throw of 44 feet in the shot put and Heidi with a time of 17.32 seconds in the 100 meter hurdles.

Golf in 1983. For the 5th consecutive year the Park River Aggies won the State Class B Grass Greens Golf Tournament. The golf team was Jeff Shoults, Scott Midgarden, Joe Shoults, Wade Sandy, Dale Kosobud and Steve O'Shea, coached by Fabian Shoults.

The Paul Farup Post No. 147 American Legion team was active in the sports area and sponsored a baseball team coached by Dean Halverson. The players were Wade Sandy, Joe Shoults, Scott Kemp, Tim Solseng, Steve O'Shea, Bob Porter, Rich Schildberger, Steve Votava, Todd Kjelland, Todd Clow, Gary Helland, Dale Kosobud, Dave Vorachek, Brad Flaten and Tim Sandy, batboy.

In 1983 the Girls Basketball team was coached by Jorgen D. Knutson, Donna Kosmatka was his assistant. Team members were LaRae Syrup, Diane Hankey, Jody Gaarder, Kathryn Kadlec, Sandee Brandt, Kathryn Hajicek, Heidi Collins, Amy Fjestad, Peggy Hankey, Heidi Midgarden, Jeanene Moe and Sonia Onstad.

The 1983 PRHS Aggie football team was coached by Fabian Shoults, assisted by Don Korbl. The team players were Wade Sandy, Joe Shoults, Rich Schildberger, Brad Flaten, Bob Porter, John Erickson, Gregg Johnson, Todd Clow, Lee Liddle, Doug Grinde, Scott Midgarden, Brian Rostvet, Mark Greicar, Lowell Winther, Todd Kjelland, Allan Ramsey, Steven Votava, Barry Clemetson, Lewis Schufletowski, Russell Trosen, Robert Herman, Mike Midgarden, LeRoy Baker and John Hajicek.

The Park River "Aggies" Volleyball team took 11 straight games to win the 15th Annual Drayton Volleyball tournament in January 1984.

The team members for 1983-1984 were: Kathy Kadlec, Peggy Hankey, Susan Lovcik, Andrea Bradley, Debbie Greciar, Sonja Onstad, Tina Benton, Kelly Anderson, Diane Hankey, Kathy Hajicek, and Heidi Collins. The team was coached by Donna Kosmatka.

The Park River "Aggies" 1983-1984 Boys Basketball team members were: Gregg Johnson, Rich Schildberger, Joe Shoults, Brian Rostvet, Bob Porter, Curtis Swartz, Todd Kjelland, Todd Clow, Mark Greicar, Barry Clemetson, Brad Flaten, Steve Votava, and Robert Herman. The team was coached by Fabian Shoults.



A SHELL OF ITS FORMER SELF. Chuck Youngquist of Park River has been working at dismantling the former Walsh County Ag Building throughout the winter. Soon all that will remain will be memories of the many activities the building once harbored.

W.C.A.S. GYM

This distinctive oval shaped gym was 74 feet wide, 148 feet long and 37 foot self-supporting ceiling. The building was built by David Meberg, Contractor. E.J. Tainter was Superintendent of W.C.A.S. at that time. Built in 1928 at a cost of \$2700. Seating capacity was 3000. The roof was repaired in 1960 and then some time later the floor was repaired.

The building was the scene of many events, basketball and sports, operettas, school plays, Mid-winter Fair, State Potato Show, graduations, physical education for boys and girls during the school year and many community affairs as well.

The last graduation held in the GYM was the class of 1978. Brian Weisz was the last student to cross the stage for his diploma.

The GYM was torn down in 1983



Park River High School Girls Basketball Team - 1921

Front Row: Olettie Hasle, Pearl Edwards

2nd Row: Gunna Thorsteinson, Ella Hanson, Irma Spornitz, Mary Bennington

Standing: Cella Pengilly, Pearl Johnson

Coach - Rev. Foley



Park River High School Girls Basketball Team - The Undefeated Team of 1922 (Played Boys Rules)

Seated: Ethel Walker, Guard; Oletta Hasle, Guard; Pearl Edwards, Forward, Captain; Cella Pengilly, Center; Ella Hanson, Forward

Standing: Ruth Thompson, Center; Agnes Heltne, Coach; Marie Johnson, Sub.



1923 PRHS Girls Basketball Team

Front Row: Inger Thompson, Olettie Hasle, Lucella Jenkinson
2nd Row: Gertrude McIntyre, Marie McIntyre
Standing - Coach, Miss Carlson



PRHS Girls Basketball - 1927-28

Front Row: Isabel Walker, Jennie Reeson, Mabel Kenny, Kathleen McIntyre, Stella Kenny
Back Row: Elva Young, Florence Levang, Lydia Herigstad, Lillian Peck



PRHS 1924 Girls Basketball Team

Front Row: Florence Gergen, Gunna Thomasson, Elaine Shepherd, Mary Kenny
Back Row: Joyce Martin, Josephine Fee, Maude Hanson, Marie Johnson



WCAS Girls Basketball - 1924

Ruth Neste, Pauline Flaten, Ruth Thorsteinson, Naomi Flaten, Joan Midgarden, Jean Campbell



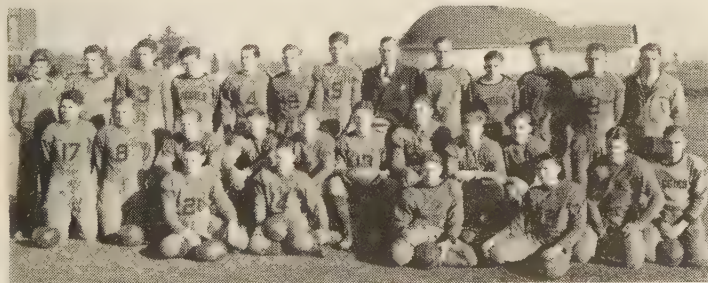
WCAS Girls Basketball 1925 - L to R: unidentified, unidentified, Gertrude McIntyre, Marie McIntyre, Pauline Flaten, Joann Midgarden



WCAS Girls Basketball 1926 - Standing (l-r): Mildred Falter, Christine Anderson, Gertrude McIntyre, Coach Miss Hovland, unidentified. Front row: unidentified, Ida Foyen, Marjorie Wishart, Hazel Falter.



WCAS Girls Basketball Team - 1928
Marion Miller, Amelia Lutovsky, Ida Foyen, Hazel Johnson, Alice Berg and Mabel Larson



WCAS 1934 Football Team
Front Row: Elmer Lovaasen, Murray King, Kenneth Williams, Richard Johanson, Orbin Erickson and James McCauley
2nd Row: Harold Hylden, Harris Klungness, Dennis Thompson, Harold Peoples, Oscar Laaveg, John Arnot, Earl Kirkeby, Victor Hultstrand, Selmer Bornholt
3rd Row: Donald Irvine, Mark Mills, Robert Plunket, Clinton Johnsen, Gorman King, Floyd Lien, George Dike, Coach George Lee, Rudolph Jensen, Juel Marifjeren, Vernon Erickson, Milton Warner and Arden Burbidge



N. Simmers, H. Mitchell, P. Weberg, L Kerwin, M. O'Hara, C.P. O'Brien, Wm. Spornitz, C. O'Reilly, Harry Newning, J.V. Birder, Edgar White



C.P. O'Brien, Wm. B. Spornitz, Schneider, M. Evans, C. O'Reilly, Herb Walker, Babe Hurtt, N.E. Simmers, J. Hennesey, Ed Foster, Greenburg, H. Overbye



Interior of the Walsh County Curling Club



Referees Larry Houser and Fabian Shoults



May 31, 1934

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Churches

BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH

It was in 1894 when Torkel H. Haavet was the only living Baptist in Walsh County, when Rev. L.J. Anderson of Rio, Wisconsin came to his home north of Edinburg and held meetings in his home and several were converted, among them was Daniel Halvorson Hove and Elling Bagne, who was baptized by Anderson. Later on, Rev. Modahl visited the place several times and baptized more converts.

It was February 17, 1896 Bethel Norwegian Baptist Church of Edinburg was organized in the home of Daniel Halvorson Hove with eight (8) members, some of whom had previously been members of the Milton Church. The charter members were the following: Lars Neilson, Mrs. Lars Neilson, Aaron Nordquist, Daniel Halvorson Hove, Miss Thora Halvorson, Andreas Larson, Mrs. Andreas Larson, and H.C. Henriksen. Deacons chosen were Lars Neilson and Aaron Nordquist (Melvin Olson's grandfather); Secretary H.C. Henriksen; and Treasurer Daniel Halvorson Hove (Torkel Haavet son and two daughters were Miss Thora Halvorson and Mrs. Andreas Larson. The Andreas Larson's are Carl Larson's parents). Rev. L.J. Parbst and Rev. L.J. Anderson were present and assisted with the Organization's Charter, and Anderson was chosen Pastor. He promised to give a couple of months service on the Edinburg and Milton fields. He served as Pastor the rest of the year, and during that time eight (8) new members were received, three (3) of whom lived near Park River.

From October 1897 Rev. Carl J. Hill served the church for one year at the same time as he served the Barton Church.

During the summer of 1899 J.O. Gotaas served the church at the same time as he was laboring on the St. Thomas field, and the following summer he did the same. The church had twenty-eight (28) members in 1900.

From 1901-1904 Rev. S. Reinholdtsen was Pastor of the church.

The work was gradually transferred from Edinburg to Park River, as Park River was more of a center than Edinburg, and since there was a church building in which the Norwegian church was allowed to hold services. (Up to this time services had been held in halls, school houses, private homes and wherever a place could be found). Since 1902 the Edinburg church had been known as "The Scandinavian Bethel Baptist Church of Park River."

In 1904 Rev. N.J. Lee came to Park River and became the Pastor of the American and Norwegian Churches and served them for two (2) years. From 1907 Rev. J.A. Moe became the Pastor of the Church. In 1907 the Norwegian church took over half of the property rights of the House of Worship. Two years later in 1909 the church changed the name to "The Bethel Baptist Church of Park River." That was done because the American church carried on very little work and the Norwegian church was the

only Baptist church in Park River. Finally the American church went out of existence. The Baptist Church was the first church building in town. It was used by other denominations until they could obtain churches of their own. In 1909 the Norwegian church took over the church building completely, and received deed on the same.

It was around 1911 and 1912 that Rev. O.H. Walby pastored the church. He lived in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada and would take the train down on weekends.

Rev. Quello pastored the church around 1913-1917 and organized the first choir which was very active for many years. (Carl Larson sang tenor in that choir).

Rev. Boen pastored the church from 1918 to about 1920. Rev. and Mrs. Boen stood up for Rev. Ben Kjenstad and Emma Nygren when they were united in marriage by Rev. O.M. Jorgenson on October 10, 1919 in the beautiful farm home of Mr. and Mrs. O.W. Olson (Melvin Olson's parents) just east of town. There are a lot of memorable parties, Sunday School picnics, Christmas parties, etc. that took place at the O.W. Olson's place.

The original building was destroyed by fire in 1920 and the present building was built in 1921 on the same foundation with the entrance to the South instead of the East. Services were held in the basement at first.

After the Park River School burned down in 1922, some classes were held in the Baptist church, which was still in the process of being rebuilt.

It was a beautiful Stucco church, Rev. R.J. Jensen was able to complete the top part of the church, main auditorium, two Sunday School rooms and the Baptistery.

Rev. O.M. Jorgenson pastored the church from 1929 through 1946. It was June, 1946 the church celebrated its 50th Anniversary. Some of the guest speakers were Rev. R.J. Jensen and Rev. O.H. Walby former pastors and a missionary to Africa (Mr. Waldemar).

It was in 1947 the church purchased the parsonage as the church had no parsonage at this time.

The Ben Kjenstad family moved to the Park River area in early 1941 or 1942. Rev. Kjenstad filled the pulpit many times in

absence of a pastor until they moved to Grafton in 1956.

Rev. E.F. Rabine came to Park River October 28, 1947, and pastored until fall of 1949. Rev. Rabine organized a choir and it was very active for 6 or 7 years.

In 1948 the church withdrew from the Norwegian conference and paid off the debt of \$3000 that was owed to them. In the next year (1949) the church put new wood siding, new roof and installed a new oil burning furnace.

In 1948 the church chose Miss Anne Wuschke as the missionary to go to Vryheid Union of South Africa for six years. She went out



Bethel Baptist Church

under the Missionary Alliance Mission Board of Chicago with Bethel Baptist responsible for all her support. It was then the church began Harvest Festivals in fall to help raise her support. A mission fund was set up for this purpose. (Carl Larson, first Mission Treasurer). Later the church set aside the first Sunday of the month in morning service, all proceeds going to missions. She left in 1949 for the mission field. Returned in 1955. From this humble beginning of one missionary has grown to some twenty mission projects. Some are members of the church and are former residents of the Park River area. Bethel is well represented in many Foreign Mission Fields.

Rev. Ron Dalzell pastored the church from December 1949 to 1952. (Two years). Church added some new Sunday School rooms in basement, a nursery and rest rooms.

Rev. Gordon Sandau pastored the church for one year 1952-1953. Mrs. Sandau was a good choir director and their second daughter was born in Park River. It was here that Irene Larson (Fostervold) introduced "Child Evangelism" to Lois Sandau and it became very active.

Others who have served the church as pastors are: Rev. Glenn Teasdale, 1954-55, one year; Rev. Henry Bober, 1956, one year; Rev. Roy Marzolf, July, 1956 to Feb. 1969. It was on October 2, 1964, the church joined the Minnesota Baptist General Conference. Rev. Richard Krieder, May 1969 to July 1971; Rev. Allen Menter, Sept. 1971 to Feb. 1975; Rev. Paul Bartlett, June 1975 to Sept. 30, 1979; Tim Burke, Interim Pastor, Sept. 30, 1979. voted on March 16, 1980, for Pastor Tim to be full time pastor, effective May 1, 1980. The church has been served by faithful pastors who have preached the Word of God and built up the work.

It was October 31, 1971, the church celebrated its 75th Anniversary when Rev. Allen Menter was pastor. A poem was read by Mrs. Melvin Olson. Special music by the Rose Hill mens quartet. A solo by Ed Hill, his father C.J. Hill was former pastor in 1897. Mrs. Harold Shepherd presented corsages to Mrs. O.M. Jorgenson, her husband, Rev. O.M. Jorgenson pastored the church the longest, seventeen (17) years, and to Melvin Olson. Song and skit by the Jake Martins and the Clint Quenzers, a sermonette by Pastor Menter. Coffee and cake was served in basement of the church.

In the last few years many improvements have been added. The annex in 1973 (dining room, kitchen and equipment). A beautiful study for the pastor, new rest rooms, nursery remodeled and made larger, tiling on the floor of main sanctuary, paneling on walls, new carpet on platform, new organ, new piano, new communion table, new podium, new flags, new folding chairs, overhead screen and projector and a new baptistry as well as a PA system.

Officers of the Church are: Pastor Tim Burke, Miss Alice Jorgenson (daughter of Rev. O.M. Jorgenson) Church Treasurer, Mrs. Harold Shepherd, Secretary. Deacons: Lawrence Omdahl, Harold Shepherd and Rodney Collins.

Trustees: Robert Shepherd, Allan Windingland and Jeffrey J. Dieter.

Researched and compiled by Mrs. Carl (Dora) Larson for Church Homecoming July 5-6, 1980.

HISTORY OF CHRISTIAN FAITH FELLOWSHIP



Christian Faith Fellowship Church

In the late sixties and early seventies there was a real move of God in this country. People turned to Jesus as their Saviour from city to city. Small home prayer groups were started simultaneously and independently everywhere to meet the needs of these new Christians. The emphasis was placed on group discussions over the Word of God, as well as on prayer, singing and praise. These small groups nurtured the faith of new and old Christians alike. Park River was no exception to this trend. A group started meeting weekly in the home of Glen and Dode Cudmore in September of 1974. The group grew and along with it the desire for a nondenominational church. This desire intensified until March of 1980 the Lord moved in the hearts of many that now was the time for our church to get started. Two went to speak to Jim Kaseman of Willmar, Minnesota concerning the steps to take to find a pastor. Jim had helped others like us to

get churches started. He had the information necessary to help. In April of 1980 Jim and about 25 people met in Park River concerning the commitment needed in starting a church. At this meeting money was raised to bring our prospective pastor and his wife to meet with us. In May of 1980 Dave and Ruth Mickelson arrived for a series of meetings.

In June, 1980, the whole Mickelson family arrived in Park River. The first service of Christian Faith Fellowship was held in the meeting room of a local business with some 35 in attendance. For a year and a half, the church moved from one meeting place to another until September of 1981. At that time Christian Faith Fellowship purchased the building they're presently in.

Christian Faith Fellowship has enjoyed growth both in spiritual depth as well as numerically since the beginning. Being a mission-minded church, people have become involved in that aspect locally as well as outside the United States. A number of people have made trips to Central America. Christian Faith Fellowship has also been involved in missionary activities behind the Iron Curtain.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The First Presbyterian Church of Park River was organized in a school house in Kensington Township by Rev. D.G. MacKay in 1881. The first Elders were: Wm. Bruce, John Baird, J. Ross, Wm. H. Landsborough, I. Davis and Roger Allin (4th Governor of North Dakota).

In 1884, the railroad came to the area and the town of Park River was organized. In a very short time the population was up to 1400 people. The churches were some of the first buildings erected.

The Presbyterian Church was built in the shape of a cross with a high steeple. There was a balcony at the back of the church where the choir sat. Sunday School classes also used this area. The colored window now on the West side of the church was originally at the back.

Mrs. T.A. Martin was the first organist and choir director. The organ was a pump style and someone had to sit behind it and man the pump to keep the music coming. That someone was often a young boy.

In the early days those desiring to join the church were questioned by the Elders as to their beliefs before membership would be granted. There were also Exhorters to remove people from membership in the church and on at least one occasion they did exactly that.



First Presbyterian Church and Manse

In 1899 the church had grown to 135 members. In 1901 a gas lighting plant was installed in the church. Electricity was installed in the manse in 1902 and the next year in the church. In 1903 the church was prepared and painted for \$87.64. The roof was reshingled this year and it was decided to pay the organist \$1.00 per Sunday.

In Feb. 1913 there was a terrible fire with a lot of damage. It was at this time that the church was raised and a basement added, the balcony was removed and the colored window moved to the West side of the church. Church repairs at this time were \$5,000.00.

There was another fire in 1921 but the damage was minor. It was shortly after this that financial problems began and a budget was prepared. Members were asked to make regular commitments. The problems grew and eventually led to suspending church services for the winter months in 1934-35.

For some time there had been discussions of how to keep the church in operation, as a result of problems in both the Methodist and Presbyterian churches the members decided to Federate. This move took a lot of planning and work on the part of both church boards. The Articles of Federation were accepted in Sept. 1938. This was the first step. The wheels move slowly in any large undertaking and it took many years to complete the merger.

Since all records burned in the fire of 1913, we do not know when the manse was built but it was renovated in 1899 and with each new family there seemed to be some project.

PRESBYTERIAN MINISTERS

1881 to March 18, 1899
April 2, 1899 to July 3, 1903
Dec. 20, 1903 to July 2, 1910
Jan. 8, 1911 to June 30, 1917
Dec. 3, 1917 to Oct. 1918
Jan. 4, 1920 to June 24, 1923
July 21, 1925 to March 16, 1929
Oct. 18, 1929 to Sept. 5, 1934
April 24, 1938 to Feb. 1939

Rev. D.G. MacKay
Rev. T. Davis Acheson
Rev. D.M. McIntosh
Rev. Donald Finlayson
Rev. E.E. Parkes
Rev. James McInnis
Rev. James Robertson
Rev. E.V. Headen
Rev. K. Orlando Lee, Methodist,
first minister in Federation.

THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Methodist Church was organized by Rev. Almon Healey in 1879 and the first meetings were held in the home of John Wadge. Later services were held in the log school on John Wadge's farm. Some records show the first services were held in a saloon and the people sat on planks. Members of the first Board of Trustees were: John Wadge, W. Burbidge, John Harris, Robert Fletcher and James McMurray.

In 1918 the church burned and in 1920 a new modern brick church was built.

METHODIST MINISTERS

1879
1880
Sept. 1881 to Oct. 1882
Oct. 1882 to Oct. 1883
Oct. 1883 to Oct. 1884

Oct. 1884 to Oct. 1887

Oct. 1887 to Oct. 1889
Oct. 1889 to Oct. 1892

Rev. Almon Healey
Rev. Ezra Healey
Rev. Robert J. Laird
Rev. John Walton
Rev. Jonathan Turner--
first service in new church.
Rev. H.P. Cooper--
building completed and 100 members.
Rev. W.E. Loomis
Rev. G.H. VanVliet

Oct. 1892 to April 1897
 April 1897 to Oct. 1902
 Oct. 1902 to Oct. 1905
 Oct. 1905 to Oct. 1907
 Oct. 1907 to Oct. 1909
 Oct. 1909 to Oct. 1910
 Oct. 1910 to Oct. 1914
 Oct. 1914 to Oct. 1918
 Oct. 1918 to Oct. 1919
 Jan. 1920 to May 1921
 May 1921 to Oct. 1923
 Oct. 1923 to Aug. 1924
 Oct. 1924 to Oct. 1925
 Oct. 1925 to Oct. 1927
 Oct. 1927 to Oct. 1930
 Oct. 1930 to Oct. 1932
 Oct. 1932 to Oct. 1935
 March 1936 to Feb. 1939

Rev. Wm. Love
 Rev. James Strachan
 Rev. W.J. Hutchenson
 Rev. C.E. Vermielya
 Rev. Charles E. White
 Rev. John H. Deniston
 Rev. A.W. Brown
 Rev. C.L. Wallace
 Rev. T. Sharpe
 Rev. E.A. Foley
 Rev. John Morange
 Rev. Robert Johnstone
 Rev. Thinas A. Simpson
 Rev. Fletcher Forster
 Rev. James Anderson
 Rev. Grant S. Moore
 Rev. C.W. Baumann
 Rev. K. Orlando Lee--

first minister for Federated Church.



Methodist Church, Park River

FEDERATED CHURCH

Articles of Federation were accepted in Sept. 1938 for the two churches to join. Rev. Orlando K. Lee was the first pastor.

Rev. Lee served the congregation until Feb. 1939. Rev. John Spencer came in April 1939 and served until Feb. 1941. In May 1941, Rev. G.S. Setterstrom came to serve and he was here until Jan. 1950. In Nov. 1950, Rev. W. Ray Radliff came and served until Oct. 1955. Rev. Everett C.H. Owens came in June 1956 and served until June 1961. Rev. Louis P. Sheldon came in June 1961 and served until Jan. 1965. In June 1965 Rev. Thomas Barnard came to serve and he stayed until June 1970. In Jan. 1971, Rev.

Grael Gannon came to serve and was here until Aug. 1978. September of 1978 Rev. Neil Mulock came and served until June served until June 1982. In Jan. 1983, Rev. Ronald Hawkins came to served us as pastor.

Some of the things noted from the minutes of the Church:

- In April 1942, Elmer Argetsinger was elected as Church Treasurer, the first joint Treasurer for the Federated Church.
 - In 1944 plans were started to redecorate the church, reshingle the roof and do some repair. It was 1945 before the roof was done and the rest took three years. Cost to reshingle the roof was \$300.00.
 - In 1944, the organ fund was started and in 1946 the new organ with chimes was ordered.
 - In 1947, the Methodist Church was sold to the Masons and the money was used to buy into the Presbyterian property. There were 168 members in the church.
 - Feb. 1948, plans were made to lower the ceiling, install new lights, redecorate and fix the restrooms.
 - May 1948, the manse furnace smoked up the house and it had to be redecorated.
 - Dec. 1948, before the remodeling of the church was completed the furnace acted up and this had to be replaced. Cost of the furnace was \$2,032.76 and the remodeling cost was \$3,760.48.
 - 1949, Memorial Fund purchased new altar, candelabra, cross, vases and flags.
 - Oct. 1950, the furnace exploded and this was replaced in 1952.
 - 1956, plans were made to build a new manse. Rev. Owens moved into this house in April 1959. The Ladies Aid provided drapes, carpet, stove and refrigerator.
 - 1961, Memorial Fund purchased a new piano.
 - 1961, plans were made to build an Education Building adjoining the church. This building was completed at a cost of \$40,000 in 1966.
 - 1975, natural gas was installed in all three church buildings. Plans were made to change the entry to the church.
 - 1977, the church and education building were joined with an enclosed entry.
 - 1979-1980, brick was added to the front of the church and the Centennial Garden across the main part of the church. New flags were purchased by Memorial Fund. The interior of the Church was painted before the Centennial celebration in 1980. Painting in 1980 cost \$1108.56 and in 1903 it cost less than \$100.00.
- Through the years the youth have always taken an active part in the church. Many sing in the choir, play piano, organ, serve coffee hour and of course present programs for the congregation.



Federated Church

In the early 1900's there was a horse drawn bus that went between Park River and Grafton every day. People sat along the sides. It was this bus that took the Sunday School classes to a picnic spot along the river east of town for their annual outing.

Both churches had pump organs and the young men of the church took turns at this chore.

At one time there was a shortage of choir members and the youth of the church solved this by coaxing their friends from other churches to help out. Of course, they returned the favor by singing in the other choirs.

Over the years the youth of the church have enjoyed tobaggan parties, sleigh rides, singing Christmas carols for shut-in members and hot chocolate afterwards. There were always Christmas programs and parties.

Through the years the youth have always taken an active part in the church. Many sang in the choir, some played piano and organ, some played horns, especially Easter morning. Some took their turn at janitor work and yard care. It is rumored that one particular minister had two very pretty daughters and the young men of the church kept their lawn well manicured, in fact they checked daily just in case the lawn took a growing spurt.

In the early days the church had "exhorters" whose function was to reprimand those who needed chastisement. They went so far as to dismiss one from the church roles.

Also in the early days the furnaces were fed with wood and coal and for conveniences the wood was stored in the basement. One night during church service the wood pile shifted and made a terrible noise. One poor man was so alarmed that the devil had arrived and was ready to select his helpers that he ran from the church in terror.

During the 1930's the churches were sadly in need of money and John Harris provided some land for a potato crop. Several of the young men from the church were involved in this project.

A long standing practice in our church has been for families to sit together. We have grown up with this and accepted it as the thing to do, but teen age guests have commented on how nice it is to see the togetherness of families.

FEDERATED MINISTERS

date of Federation Sept. 6, 1938

Sept. 6, 1938 to Feb. 1939	Rev. K. Orlando Lee
Apr. 16, 1939 to Feb. 21, 1941	Rev. John Spencer
May 1941 to Jan. 1950	Rev. G.S. Setterstrom
Nov. 1950 to Oct. 1955	Rev. W. Ray Radliff
June 1956 to June 1961	Rev. Everett C.H. Owens
June 1961 to Jan. 1965	Rev. Louis P. Sheldon
June 1965 to June 1970	Rev. Thomas Barnard
Jan. 1971 to Aug. 1978	Rev. Graef Gannon
Sept. 1978 to June 1982	Rev. Neil Mullock
Jan. 1983--	Rev. Ronald Hawkins

THE FEDERATED WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The First Presbyterian Church of Park River was organized in a school house in Kensington Township by Rev. D.G. McKay in 1881.

The Methodist Church was organized by Rev. Almon Healey in 1897 and the first meetings were held in the home of John Wadge.

The churches and Sunday Schools were joined in September 1938 but the ladies groups and some projects to finish before they were ready to federate. Some were reluctant to disband the groups where they had spent so many hours and years as a close knit group.

The earliest available records for the Presbyterian Missionary Society are from 1902. It is supposed that the first records were burned in the fire of 1913.

In 1902 the ladies met every week and paid dues of five cents a week. They met in homes and had sewing projects to raise money. One of the most popular was quilting and the ladies had a standard price of \$2.00 for quilting a quilt and twenty cents for tying a quilt. One afternoon six ladies tied two quilts for forty cents. Another afternoon they had completed all projects so spent the afternoon making button holes for the hostess.

By the 1960's this particular group seemed to have collected all the older ladies of both churches and their monthly meetings were the social highlight of their lives. They had recruited enough granddaughters of the original members who were willing to help them enjoy this special time of fellowship. Most of the members were in their late eighties and early nineties and living alone, so eating together had a special meaning. It was always a source of pride that they always met their share of their apportionment. As the membership dwindled this group merged with the others.

The Ladies Aids of both denominations were active in keeping the church going. In the early years they had fall suppers with small bazaars which was changed into large bazaars and lunches.

The ladies seemed to feel that the kitchen was their department and records show they remodeled and added to the facilities as their funds allowed. Whenever the Church Board needed help they responded with money.

In 1903 Park River held a fair and the ladies sold paper weights with a picture of the church on them. Some of these are still around today. The fair grounds, complete with race track, were located where the High School stands today. The ladies also had a booth and sold lunches.

The ladies have always taken an active part in providing "extras" for the church and manse. Curtains, drapes, stoves and other necessary items. They are an auxiliary unit, in that, they get the approval of the board for any major project they are planning.

In 1950 an evening circle was formed to accomodate the mothers of small children and the many working women. In 1956 one large group was formed instead of small groups with Mrs. Alex Ford, Ione, as the first president of the new Federated Ladies Fellowship.

It is business "as usual" for the ladies of the church as they are still busy working for the church as they have from the very beginning.

-notes from Federated Church
Centennial Book, 1980

ST. MARYS PARISH OF PARK RIVER

The first Mass celebrated in Park River was in 1887. In that year Fr. J.P. Connelly started coming from Larimore, where he was stationed, and offered Mass at first only a few times a year. Easter, Christmas and Ash Wednesday were special occasions when the early Catholics made every effort to have a priest come and hear confessions and offer Mass. The home of J.J. Dougherty was used for Mass since there was no Catholic Church in Park River. Farm homes were also used including those of Frank Falter and George Dobmeier.

In the beginning the congregation consisted of only ten families. The faith was strong and the people felt a real need for religious training and instruction. When Mass was not celebrated in Park River the families journeyed to Pisek, where the children also attended religious education classes. Fr. Augustinsky of Veseleyville was in charge of the Parish of Pisek. Some parishioners also went as far as Grand Forks for Mass and instructions.

The early families were Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Birder, Mr. and Mrs. J.J. Dougherty, the Bernard Middendorfs, the George Dobmeiers, the Owen O'Reillys, the Michael Pooles, the John Simmers, the O'Haras, the John Kanders and the Martineks. Priests who served during the early years were Rev. Edward Powers, Rev. J.L. Perault and Rev. P.J. Connelly who lived at Larimore.

In 1888 St. Veronica's Church was built at a cost of \$600.00. The first pastor was Fr. J.F. Simpson, who lived at Larimore but came to Park River as often as he could. The membership increased to forty. Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Birder and Mrs. J.J. Dougherty were among the aggressive leaders in the early years.

The Catholic Church in Park River was officially incorporated in 1895 but continued as a mission of Larimore for 16 years. In 1911 Fr. John Maxwell was appointed the first resident pastor. He was able to initiate a full schedule of parish activities including Sunday school and a choir. Church membership increased to 150 and talk of a new church was heard.

A new church called St. Mary's was built in 1914, under the direction of Fr. Patrick Long. The new structure seated 350 people and had a choir loft in the rear. The cost was \$5,000.00. A gift of \$100.00 was received from the Carnegie Foundation for the purchase of an organ.

The next pastor was Fr. Alex McDonald who served from 1916 until 1922. In 1925, under the direction of Fr. Philip McGee, a rectory was purchased for \$3,500.00. Prior to this the pastor lived in an apartment. Fr. McGee was pastor of St. Mary's from 1922 until 1931. The missions of Milton and Osnabrock were attached to Park River and were served by the pastor until 1941. In that year St. Mark's Church of Conway was attached to Park River.

Fr. Charles Fay became pastor of St. Mary's Church of Park River in 1931 and remained here until 1938. He is remembered for his strict adherence to church doctrine and practice, the proper observance of Lent, frequent reception of the Sacraments, First Friday Masses. A small chapel was arranged in the rectory for Mass during the winter months and Lent.

In 1938 Fr. John J. O'Meara came to Park River as pastor. In May of 1940 a most unusual event was the Confirmation of more than 100 children and adults by Bishop Aloisius J. Muench then Bishop of Fargo. A bell was installed in the church tower at a cost of \$800.00.

In 1941 another outstanding event took place, the First Mass of Fr. Lloyd Joseph Hylden who was ordained a priest on June 7, 1941 in Fargo. Fr. Hylden was a native of Park River and lived here for the first years of his life. The family then moved to East Grand Forks but returned to Park River in 1933. They remained here until 1940 when they moved to Thief River Falls, Minn.

In 1952 St. Ansgar's Hospital, a 25-bed facility for the sick, was opened under the auspices of the Sisters of the Presentation of Fargo. Sister Mary Aloisius was the first administrator. Other administrators have been Sister Bernadette, Sister Madeline, Sister Barbara, Sister Judith, Sister Mary Margaret, Sister Marcelline, Sister Boniface, Sister Agatha, Sister Caritas, OSB, Mrs. Mary Hanson and Dennis Lambert.

Several priests served as chaplains to the Hospital. These included Fr. Ludvik Svetinsky, Fr. Edward Frueh, Fr. William



Roman Catholic Church.

Crane and Fr. Edward McCormack, S.J.

Fr. O'Meara died in 1964 and was succeeded by Fr. Michael McNamée. During the latter part of his pastorate, it became evident that a new church and educational facility would soon be needed. The plans were drawn up and in 1969-70 an imposing building was constructed at the west edge of town along Highway 17. The building contains a contemporary church, topped by a conspicuous tower with electronic chimes, and educational center, social hall and an adjoining rectory. The building was dedicated in 1970.

Because of failing health Fr. McNamée retired from active ministry in 1971 and took up residence in Ireland.

Fr. Ervin Zirbes was appointed pastor in July 1971. During his pastorate he performed many valuable services to the community both spiritually and materially. He re-organized the cemetery and saw to the erection of an altar there for outdoor Masses. With helpers from the parish he also provided for the better care of the cemetery grounds. He was a great collector of books and phonograph records. When he died in December of 1982 he left an estimated 20,000 records to Cardinal Muench Seminary and several thousand books on all subjects to the Seminary, the Diocese of Fargo and to the parish.

During the latter years of Fr. Zirbes' pastorate a need was felt for additional space in the church, rectory and educational center. A bride's room, which also serves as a children's room during liturgical services, an additional sacristy and up-to-date confessional, rest rooms, a lay directors' office and additional storage space were added to the church. An additional meeting room was also added to the social hall. The living room of the rectory was also enlarged.

Sometime during 1981 Fr. Zirbes developed a serious heart condition which became progressively worse. This hampered his work in the parish, but loyal parishioners came forth to help as much as possible. On Dec. 24, 1982, just before Midnight Mass at Our Lady of the Angels Church, Sauk Center, Minn. Fr. Zirbes succumbed to a sudden heart attack. A funeral Mass was held at Park River and another in Sauk Center, his home town, where his body was buried.

During the ensuing months the parish was served by priests from the neighboring towns of Grafton, Pisek and Lankin. In late March of 1983, Fr. John G.B. Smyth was appointed temporary pastor and remained until July 5, 1983 when Msgr. Allan F. Nilles of Fargo arrived to become the permanent pastor of St. Mary's Church. Msgr. Nilles, a native of Fargo, had previously served at St. James Church of Jamestown. He was Chancellor of the

Diocese for five years and Vicar General for ten years, and was the pastor of St. Mary's Cathedral of Fargo for 14 years. He now serves as the ninth resident pastor of St. Mary's Church of Park River.

ST. PETER AND ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH



St. Peter and St. James Episcopal Church

"The Red River Valley is a magnificent country, as flat as the poorest sermon ever preached," said William D. Walker, the first Episcopal bishop of what is now North Dakota when he arrived on the frontier in 1884. He encouraged his congregations to build stone churches, explaining, "In this fireswept, tornado-racked climate it has seemed the wisest to rear such massive, stable churches as will pass the ordeal of fire and storm." (Quotes from a history of the Episcopal Church in ND by Robert and Wynona Wilkins, 1959).

The first recorded Episcopal service was held in 1881 in a log cabin a mile and a half east of Park River, the home of William Code. No other services were recorded until 1884, when the railroad reached Park River. Then the bishop's "Cathedral Car" made trips to Park River and other towns north of Grand Forks. Intermittent services were held from 1886 to the 1890's in the Baptist church, with ten communicants. As in the log cabin service, people who came to these services were not always members. They came to one of the few churches in the neighborhood where their children could be baptised, and weddings and funerals could be held. Near Adams in the 1890's St. Ansgarius mission confirmed 42 Swedish communicants. Families and individuals in Fordville, Conway, Inkster, Forest River, Langdon, Osnabrock and Milton were listed as baptised, confirmed, married or buried in the first Park River record books.

Encouraged by the bishop, the people of St. Peter's Episcopal mission, under the direction of their priest-in-charge, the Rev. Samuel Currie, laid the corner stone in their stone foundation in 1901. As in other towns with stone churches, the men and boys gathered rocks from their fields for the structure. Among them were John Lewis and sons. The new church building on Code Ave. was consecrated on January 15, 1902 upon lots donated by Mr. and Mrs. C.D. Lord. Much of the construction was done by members of the mission. The exposed bolts that secure the arched oak roof beams of the Gothic style building were forged

by blacksmith Tom Catherwood. The hand-forged railings at the entry were made by George Walker. The stained glass windows were given as memorials.



Stained glass windows in St. Peter Episcopal Church



Stained glass windows in St. Peter Episcopal Church

No record remains of the donors of the furniture, but the oak altar rail, pews, choir stalls, bishop's and priest's chairs and the eagle-topped lectern are the original furnishings, gifts of people in the 'East,' who were interested in establishing missions. The American eagle with outstretched wings atop the lectern symbolizes spreading the gospel over the world. There is no pulpit, since the early bishops stressed the importance of communion over "preaching." The building remains almost the same as when it was built, except that the attached rectory, no longer in use, was removed in 1980.

With funds from a legacy from Mr. and Mrs. V.J. Bjornson of Mountain and monies from the Grafton congregation of St. James' Church, some much needed repairs were made and the sacristy was enlarged, using some doors and the stained glass windows from the rectory.

In 1976 St. James', Grafton and St. Peter's, Park River, church was served by the Rev. Stephen Sedgwick, also serving Lakota, and the Rev. Robert Woodard of Grand Forks. The present priest-in-charge is the Rev. Fredrick Gillette of Grand Forks.

Although clergy were too few to serve all the missions in the smaller towns regularly, St. Peter's has had regular Sunday services by sharing clergymen through the years with neighboring churches in Grafton, Langdon and Lakota, and by using Lay Readers from the congregation. Dean Miller, Fordville, and Don Dunlop, Grafton, are presently lay readers.

St. Peter's-St. James' and most of the smaller mission churches are "Low Church," with a simple ritual suitable where there is a small parish. The clergy wear vestments and the seasonal colors are observed, but the Book of Common Prayer responses are spoken, not sung when there is no organist.

The names on the church register reflect a variety of nationalities, typical of Walsh County, including English and Canadian Anglicans, Americans from farther east, Germans, Scandinavians, Dutch and one Armenian, originally Eastern Orthodox. Some of the original families not already mentioned which might be remembered include Alm, Bond, Booth, Barker, Bruce, Bolton, Bates, Bidlake, Cameron, Chapman, Close, Dunford, Dunbar, Eaton, Eberth, Finneseth, Flint, Fraine, Fleischman, Gillespie, Green, Hobbs, Holmes, Howe, Jones, Johnson, Kelly, Kellogg, Laithwaite, Little, Leedham, Lohse, McCauley, McLeod, McLaughlin, McCombe, McDougal, McEwen, Morse, Murphy, Newcomb, Nye, Overbye, Owen, Potts, Plunkett, Pickle, Rasmussen, Secord, Scouten, Swarthout, Studley, Sukstorf, Thompson, Taylor, Van Houten, Wahlstrom, Williams, Wilson, Woodworth and Wakeford. The descendents of several of these families are still in the community.

The missionary priests C.E. Dobson, F.J. Tassel and Edward Burleson recorded some of these names in St. Peter's records though they were from other communities. Often Episcopalians from other communities on the Great Northern came to Park River on Saturday staying over night to attend Sunday service.

OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

With the opening of the virgin prairie land, the pioneers realized that there was yet another type of seed which must be planted. "For man does not live by bread alone." As there were not enough families to have their own church, the spiritual needs of the Lutheran people of Park River were ministered by Rev. C.A. Flaten, who traveled the seventeen miles between Grafton and Park River as often as he could. Occasional services were held in the various homes. Pleasant Valley had organized a congregation in Nov. 1880 and at this early date, they too, were served by Rev. Flaten, until in 1883 when they called Pastor M.E. Holseth who became their regular pastor.

Our Saviour's was organized as a result of a heart-felt need on the part of its early members for Spiritual guidance and comfort. Distance and modes of travel made it impossible to regularly receive the Means of Grace--and thus there was a desire on the part of the people to establish a congregation of their own. On Dec. 15, 1889, the first recorded meeting was held, and its purpose was to organize a congregation and to call a pastor. Rev. Holseth was chairman for this meeting and he was later called to serve the Park River congregation, as well as Pleasant and Golden Valley.

In March 1895, the congregation decided to build a church with the funds they had available at that time. This church building was very simple. In 1902, the old parsonage was sold and plans were made to build a new one the following year. This was completed by August 1, 1903. The interior of the church had also

been completed and was dedicated in August, 1903. completed and was dedicated in August 1903.

The year 1931 was a banner year for the women of the church, as the right to vote was granted to them at the annual meeting in January.

Fire damaged the church Nov. 9, 1943, to the extent of nearly \$2800.00. Following the fire the church was repaired and painted, a choir room was built and a stoker was installed. The dream of a new church became a reality with ground breaking ceremonies being held in 1951. The church was completed and dedicated Nov. 14, 1954.



Moving from the old church to the new

Live broadcasting over KNDK began in 1968 and has continued ever since.

A newly purchased parsonage was dedicated in 1968 and the church took on a new look with the completion of the steeple.

An important part of the worship of Our Saviour's has been the various choirs. Our hearts were saddened by the loss of our organist, John C.H. Moan, who for many years dedicated his life to the music of the church and also in the community. He passed away in Nov. 1982.

Our Saviour's became a one-point parish when Pleasant Valley voted to continue independently in 1976. Members from Pleasant Valley choosing to join Our Saviour's were admitted membership.

Another important part of Our Saviour's is the women's organization now known as ALCW (American Lutheran Church Women). On May 12th, 1892, a group of eight ladies met in a home of a member (Mrs. Andrew Anderson) for the purpose of organizing a Ladies Aid. During all these years the ladies of the congregation kept foremost in their minds the spiritual help they could give to their fellowmen. They give to various charity organizations, are active in both foreign and home missions, did Red Cross work during the wars; have sent many boxes of clothing and blankets to Lutheran World Relief.

The 90th anniversary was celebrated in 1979. Plans are being made for the 100th anniversary to be celebrated in 1989.

PASTORS SERVING THIS PARISH ARE:

Rev. C.A. Flaten	1881-1882
Rev. M.E. Holseth	1883-1892
Rev. Th. H. Larson	1892-1897
Rev. M.N. Knutson	1897-1900
Rev. O. Guldseth	1901-1910
Rev. G. Shurson	1910-1911
Rev. J.O. Bjerke	1911-1922

Rev. S. Strandjord	1922-1929
Rev. L. Nypen	1931-1942
Rev. John B. Rockne	1943-1954
Rev. Leonard E. Smestad	1954-1960
Rev. Arne Carlson	1960-1967
Rev. Donald Ronning	1967-1980
Rev. Thomas Sahl	1975-1976
Rev. Reuben Jacobson, Jr.	1980-
Rev. David Engen	1981-
Intern Pastor, Julian Erickson	1958-1959

LAY ASSISTANTS

WHO HAVE SERVED THIS CONGREGATION:

Orville Kjelland	1969-1971
Larry Cudmore	1971-1972
Mike Ensrud	1972-1973
Larry Cudmore	1973-1975
Scott Wicker	1977-1978
Lee Laaveg	1978-1980
Joel Hylden	1980-1981
Pastor Corliss Rassmusson served for a short time in Sept.-Oct., 1980.	



September 18, 1914

Gustav Brandt returned on Tuesday from his trip to Norway, where he spent the past three months, visiting in Christiania and the old home at Valdara. Mr. Brandt was a member of the Lincoln statue presentation committee which sailed for Christiania in June to attend the centennial ceremonies held the first part of July. After this event was past he visited relatives and friends in Christiania and also the scenes of his boyhood at Valdara. He had a most enjoyable time during his stay, although prolonged somewhat on account of the heavy exodus of tourists and inability to secure passage promptly on the few boats that ply between Norway and this country. He says the European war is having a paralyzing effect on many industries in Norway and that prices of necessities have been advanced as a result. Mr. Brandt took homeward passage on the Bergensfjord and arrived in New York on the 7th. He spent several days en route home at New York and Chicago, where he selected an attractive fall line of goods for his store. Other North Dakotans on the boat homeward bound were Mr. and Mrs. John Flekke of Grafton.

Trivia

..August 7, 1914 - Gustav Brandt has an audience with King Haakon of Norway as a member of the committee appointed by North Dakota's Governor Hanna to present the Statue of Lincoln to the people of Norway.

..September 18, 1914 - Gustav Brandt has returned from his visit to Norway. It is reported that upon the presentation of the Statue of Lincoln the King had thought it would be nice if there were a young fellow from North Dakota to carry the flag. It happened that William C. Skjerven of Park River was visiting with his father, so he was requested to do the honors of carrying the flag.

..June, 1907 - The total assessment of Park River as fixed by the Board of Equalization - Real Estate and Structures - \$149,928; Personal Property - \$72,365 - a total of \$222,283. This total is exclusive of Bank Stock and surpluses which amount to \$64,053.02 and which will be taxed on the same percentage basis as other property.

..December 24, 1897 - School Census was taken. Park River had 466 kids of school age.

..January, 1898 - There wasn't enough snow around town to make a snowball.

..August, 1903 - E. Herwick is the contractor for building residences for Henry Anderson (103 Code Avenue South), Nels Marifjeren (113 Code Avenue South) and the Lutheran Parsonage (202 Harris Avenue South) at a cost of \$3,000 to \$4,000 per home.

December 29, 1927

WILLIAM W. SMITH, AN EARLY PIONEER, DIES SUDDENLY

HE OPERATED FIRST STORE IN
PARK RIVER. WENT WEST
THIRTY YEARS AGO

We are again this week called upon to record the demise of another of the very first settlers of our county and one who was intimately acquainted with Mr. E. O. Faulkner whose death was related in our columns last week. William Maxwell Smith, who managed the first store in Park River, died on Monday, Dec. 12, at Deroche, B. C., Canada, only a few days previous to the demise of his friend.

Mr. Smith is a brother of David Smith of this city and a brother-in-law of J. J. Kohnen with whom he operated a flour and feed store in the early days of Park River.

The first store operated here was moved here from Garfield by Mr. Smith in 1881 and was stationed near the right-of-way west of what is now the Wheat Pool elevator. After operating the store for a few years he became engaged in the flour and feed business with Mr. Kohnen.

About thirty years ago Mr. Smith and his family left for British Columbia where they have since resided and where Mr. Smith became an important leader in civic affairs.

The Vancouver Province News of British Columbia has the following article in regards to the life of Mr. Smith:

William Maxwell Smith, 68, farmer, of Deroche, and old-time political war horse, was found dead in bed about 8 p. m. Monday.

A Liberal meeting had been called to be held in the Memorial Hall, Deroche, on Monday night, and at the time set for the meeting, as Mr. Smith was not present, C. Cooper and Leslie Smith went to his place to see what was delaying him. On approaching the house, which is only a short distance from the hall, they noticed that the snow had not been disturbed, and at once sensed that something had happened. When they entered the house they found Mr. Smith lying dead in bed, he evidently having passed away during the previous night.

The Mission coroner, Dr. E. J. Eacrett, and Police Corporal G. J. Duncan were called and immediately went to the house. Dr. Eacrett

decided that an inquest was not necessary, as Mr. Smith had evidently died from heart disease. He had been more or less unwell for several months.

August 23, 1917

Frenzied Finance

In 1892 Park River built a city hall at a cost of \$5900. In order to pay for it City Hall Bonds for \$8500.00 were issued, maturing in ten years from date, the resolution directing the City Auditor to certify an annual levy of \$950.00 for a sinking fund and \$425.00 for an interest fund. In 1902 when the bonds matured, there was no money in the sinking fund to pay with, so it became necessary to issue City Hall Refunding Bonds for \$8500 maturing in fifteen years from date, the resolution directing the City Auditor to certify an annual levy of \$450.00 for the first five years, \$925.00 for the next five years, \$1600.00 for the next five years, to pay the interest and principal of said bonds. Assuming that these amounts have been certified as directed, it means that the City has collected from the taxpayers in twenty-five years the total sum of \$26,725.00 to pay the principal and interest on the purchase price of a building costing \$5900. The Herald is informed that the money collected for the sinking fund has been used for other purposes and that even now it has been proposed to make a new bond issue of \$8500 for another fifteen years, and let the grand-children of those who built it in 1892 pay for an old decrepit remnant of a shack, ready to totter into innocuous desuetude.

Read the Herald, keep posted.

February 2, 1917

Lumber is about the only thing left that isn't "High"

Nobody knows how-
ever, what may hap-
pen to it since ship-
ments have been cut
off by the car short-
age.

**Protect your-
self by seeing us at
once, you can buy now,
haul when you want to,
and pay next fall.**

The present car shortage is the worst in the history of commerce. Shipments will be delayed for months. Lumber is sure to be scarce. Protect yourself against delays and advances in price by doing your planning now. Our Service Department will prepare sketches for you showing how your building will look, how much it will cost, what material it will require, and guarantee the price.

**You are protect-
ed against advan-
ces as well as de-
clines**

Lumber is about the only thing left that has not gone up. Notwithstanding the fact that your produce is bringing you higher prices than it ever has before, you can purchase lumber at a lower price than you ever paid before, providing you make your purchases now. Such an opportunity to plan in advance without expense for drawings, blue prints, guaranteed material lists, etc., is rare. Eliminate guesswork and insure satisfaction by having us work your building out on paper first.

Thompson Yards, Inc
L. V. LaFourelle, Local Mgr.
Park River, N. D.

Organizations

AGASSIZ GARDEN CLUB

PIONEER MEMORIAL GARDEN

The Agassiz Garden Club was founded at the home of Mrs. H.D. Long of Park River on August 16, 1954, when a group of women met with the idea to start a garden club.

Those present were Mrs. H.D. Long, Mrs. I.E. Hanson, Mrs. J.C. Kenney, Mrs. Arthur Meagher, Mrs. Bert Hardy, Mrs. Walter Dougherty, all of Park River; Mrs. Fred Dencker, Mrs. Arthur McIntyre and Mrs. M.C. Flaten of Edinburg and Mrs. Jake Veum of rural Hoople. The group elected as president Mrs. H.D. Long; first vice president, Mrs. Jake Veum; second vice president, Mrs. I.E. Hanson; secretary, Mrs. M.C. Flaten; treasurer, Mrs. J.C. Kenney.

The idea of the garden club was to promote and stimulate love of gardening among amateurs, aid in the protection of nature, flowers, trees, birds, air and streams, promote community beautification and ecology.

Names were suggested by members as to the name of the garden club. On Oct. 4, 1954, the name Mrs. Long had suggested was chosen, "The Agassiz Garden Club" in memory of the late Dr. Lewis R. Agassiz, an eminent Swiss horticulturist, who came to this country as a naturalist and teacher. It did seem appropriate as the area is on the edge of the old Lake Agassiz Basin.

The club decided to have meetings from March through November, to limit the membership to 20 and with dues to be \$2.00 per year.

H.D. Long, a well known farmer and an ardent flower lover, gave the club a \$100.00 check to get the club off to a good start. They voted at the last meeting in 1954 that each member invite a friend to become a member in 1955. The same officers served in 1955 and the club doubled in membership to 20.

The first flower show was held June 23, 1955, in the lower auditorium of the Park River City Hall. The silver tea netted \$78.80, which was donated to the Swimming Pool Fund.

On October 5, 1956, the club had a turkey dinner in the lower auditorium of the Catholic Church. Mrs. M.C. Flaten brought up the subject of a memorial garden at the Homme Dam area. Some of the members thought it could not be done, while others agreed to try, so the club agreed that the idea be pursued. Mrs. M.C. Flaten was asked to look into the subject and maybe the club could think of projects to raise money for the memorial garden, and if it did not mature, there were plenty of worthy clubs and organizations who could use the money.

When the Walsh County Fair and State Potato Show was held in October, 1955, Mr. Long let the garden club use his booth at the Fair to secure signatures of people who would like to see the Homme Dam area developed into a recreational area. They secured over 400 signatures at the time. Mr. Long let the club use his booth other times, as well, as the club had a booth of its own once. Then they were able to use the booth of the State Water Commissioner to get the feeling and sentiment of people in this area.

The first thing the club had to do was to get a Park Board established so they could work with the Corps of Engineers and County Commissioners. In 1957, the club had a plant sale at the American Legion Hall in Park River, which was the club's first project to set up an account for the Memorial Garden. The sale

netted \$100 and Mrs. John Donnelly of Grafton was appointed treasurer of the project. A committee was appointed to promote interest in the Memorial Garden at Homme Dam. The three women were Mrs. Charles Erickson of Lankin, Mrs. John Donnelly of Grafton and Mrs. M.C. Flaten of Edinburg.

The club featured a garden column in the Grafton Record and the Walsh County Press for several years, which was edited by Mrs. John Myrdal and Mrs. M.C. Flaten, both of Edinburg.

It was November 5, 1958, when the Walsh County Park Board of County Commissioners was created. Ben Middendorf, a Park River Commissioner, introduced a resolution and it was moved and adopted that a Board of County Park Board Commissioners be named and that it would consist of five elected County Commissioners and two resident citizens of the county. The next day, November 16, a policy resolution for funding the new created park system was passed. According to the resolution passed, the County Auditor serves as secretary, the County Treasurer as treasurer and the States Attorney acts as legal advisor. Later, a correspondence secretary was named. Mrs. M.C. Flaten was named to the correspondence secretary and served in that capacity until her death in December, 1977. The Agassiz Garden club assured the local Park Board that no funds would be asked to maintain the garden. (Mrs. Carleton Rinde of Hoople now serves as corresponding secretary.)

Nothing could be done until a Park Board was appointed and the club designated as to where the garden would be located. The club feels it has rendered a service to the area by being instrumental in the creation of the Walsh County Park Board of Commissioners to work with the Corps of Engineers in managing the Homme Dam recreational area.

The club chose the iris as its club flower on March 21, 1958. The meaning of iris is "Message." At the same meeting the motto of the club was chosen "Share your experiences."

The April, 1959 meeting was spent mostly in discussion about the garden to be at Homme Dam. The question was for whom it should honor, whether it should be local or a county project and if it should be a "Pioneer Memorial Garden". First the club had to get the location of the garden and the size. New dirt had to be hauled in and a water system installed so it could be irrigated. It was a dry year. The ground was prepared and built up, loads of river bottom soil were bought from the Hoople area and hauled in. This cost the club \$100. Henry Lundene gave fertilizer from his farm, while he, Art McIntyre, and Carol Ellingson did the hauling and donated time along with other labor. Much of the work was done by garden club members. The garden is 50 by 198 feet and is named "Pioneer Memorial Garden."

Hamilton Berg was the first caretaker; Ben Middendorf was appointed chairman of the Park Board and he worked closely with the Garden Club.

The club was asked to seek a schoolhouse from a rural district to be moved to the area to be used as a lodge or clubhouse. The schoolhouse from District 34 was moved in and reconditioned to use as a meeting hall and garden center. It has been named "Pioneer Memorial Hall". The caretaker's trailer was nearby and it was moved to the west end, along with another schoolhouse (District No. 93) which was moved in and remodeled for a

concession stand.

During the Diamond Jubilee Celebration in Park River on July 1-4, 1959, the Garden Club maintained the City Hall Basement as a rest and relaxation area for visitors. Chairs, flowers, tables and reading material were supplied. Mrs. M.O. Johnson and Mrs. Albert Lewis were in charge.

In Nov. 1960, the first plantings took place in the garden. 600 tulips were planted. The garden spot is near what is known as Grand View Point, which is near the spillway. Harry Graves drew up the blue print for the original garden and members have tried to follow the plan. Bob Amstrup, County Agent, was always available to assist in helping with plans for the garden.

In July, 1960, the first big event was held at the Homme Recreational area. The Park River Commercial Club held their first Fish Fry and boat races. Garden Club members helped to sell tickets to the event. The Agassiz Garden Club donated and delivered the first picnic table, the other clubs and organizations delivered tables and other items that had been promised.

On July 11, 1961, a large stone was moved to the Pioneer Memorial Garden as a marker. Henry Lundene of Adams located the stone and a Walsh County low boy was used to move the stone 17 miles to its present site. Those who assisted in the work were Ben Middendorf, August Nygard, Joe Matejeck, Glenn Walter and A.L. Houdek. The stone marker is 6 feet high, 3½ feet wide and 30 inches thick and weighs about 6 ton. It came from the Alfred Monson farm in Tiber Township. Ted Torgerson and Henry Lundene installed the Bronze plaque which the garden club purchased. It reads: "Dedicated to the Memory of the Pioneers of Walsh County, by the Agassiz Garden Club, Erected, 1961." At a ceremony on July 23, 1961, Mrs. H.D. Long unveiled the marker and the Pioneer Memorial Garden was dedicated as a living tribute to all the pioneers of Walsh County. The flag and flag pole were unveiled and dedicated on this date, also. These were from all the American Legion Posts in Walsh County. There were over 4000 people in attendance that day for the Fish Fry that was put on by the Park River Commercial Club.



MONUMENT AT PIONEER MEMORIAL GARDEN Homme Dam, Park River "Dedicated to the Pioneers of Walsh County." Erected in 1961. Agassiz Garden Club

The club has donated to graveling the road to the youth area, Dimes for Pines, gave seeds to children, donated toward the construction of a green house at the Peace Garden, Harry Graves Fund Scholarship, Seeds for Friendship, Land Grant (earmarked to be used in North Dakota), planted a friendship tree on the lawn at the Good Samaritan Rest Home, placed bird houses, wren houses, blue bird houses, Martin houses in Park areas and planted trees and shrubs that produce food for them in winter. A bird sanctuary has been set up and a marker verifies the fact, as it has been registered with the Audubon Society.

The Agassiz Garden Club installed the first Blue Star marker in the state of North Dakota, in memory of all the service people who paid the supreme sacrifice, dedicating it June 27, 1971. A wreath is placed each year and Veterans honor it. The club was also instrumental in instigating a Blue Star marker at the Ethnic Village in Grafton in 1976, which was turned over to a Grafton club.

The Agassiz Garden club was affiliated with the North Dakota State Federation of Garden Clubs and National Council, but withdrew in 1979. However, they won many cash prizes which enabled them to expand their projects at the Homme Dam area. The Garden Club gave money to have the Pioneer Memorial Hall painted, purchased dishes, silverware, coffee pot, stove and refrigerator. They bought shades, curtains, file cabinets, etc.

The club has a memorial stone for its members. Dora Larson thought of the idea, and Rosemarie Myrdal and Ted Torgerson designed the carion. Ted Torgerson and Charlie Greicar built the marker, while members brought stones to put in the marker which is built of North Dakota native stones.

Some of the latest projects of the club are buffer plantings and memorial trees behind the Pioneer Memorial Hall and behind and near the Bird Sanctuary marker. The club met with the Corps of Engineers and Park Board and received a new overall landscape plan that included the planting of the trees. Anyone wishing a memorial tree may contribute \$40 to the Pioneer Memorial Garden and have a tree planted in memory of a loved one, with a stainless steel plaque with the name placed by the tree. Trees planted are Mountain Ash, Cut Leaf Birch, Green Ash, Clump Birch, Hoppa Crab and evergreen.

Postcards of the Memorial Garden and Memorial spoons have been money making projects for the Garden Club. Spoons are still available at \$4.00 each and proceeds go to maintain the Memorial Garden. Also, the annual May plant sale is another money making project.

There is much more that could be said, but the Agassiz Garden Club is thankful to each and everyone who has helped or participated in any way to make these dreams come true. God bless you all.

Dora Larson, historian for the Agassiz Garden Club

Plans for a Pioneer Memorial Garden to be located at the Homme recreational area got underway in 1956 by the Agassiz Garden Club.

The site was selected, not only because it is approximately at the center of Walsh County, but also because Homme Dam is a Federal Project under the direction of the Corps of Engineers and they had indicated that this was the best location because of future development. Homme Dam is under the direction of the Walsh County Commissioners and it is one of the best tourist attractions in this part of the State of North Dakota.

The natural beauty of the area has been referred to by some members of the Greater North Dakota Association as one of the most outstanding in that respect. Native trees, elm, boxelder, ash, basswood, cottonwood and oak, grow abundantly along the banks of the Park River on which Homme Dam is situated.

Shrubs, such as chokecherry, juneberry, hazelnuts, wild rose and snowberry, grow thickly where grazing is not permitted. Native flowers and wildlife including deer, grouse and waterfowl of many species find shelter here and game fish are taken from the lake, which is stocked regularly.

For an area of miles, the site offers residents water sports of all kinds as well as just picnic and outdoor recreation area. The area lends itself well for winter sports. All of these features which are not common in this section of the State were considered in selecting this site for the garden which is situated at Grand View Point on the South edge of Homme Reservoir. Two and two-third acres of land were donated as a background windbreak for the garden. The garden chairman enlisted the help of the Soil Conservation Committee for the planting of a shelterbelt of trees including Black Hills spruce and a variety of colorful shrubs. More land was purchased later by the Park Board to provide a 300 car surfaced parking lot with access walks to the garden area.

The park site is ¼ mile off State Highway No. 17. The Agassiz Garden Club has placed a redwood sign, with plantings of petunias at the turn indicating location of the garden. Broken trees at the end of the windbreak were removed in the sign area and grass and shrubs were planted. The entrance road and the parking lot are surfaced.

The former School District No. 34 building has been moved in and reconditioned to be used for a meeting hall. It has been renamed Pioneer Memorial Hall. Caretakers quarters and another school, District No. 93, was moved and remodeled for a concession stand. They are located a short distance from the garden.

Many picnic tables, shelters, fireplaces, trash cans and several pieces of play equipment as well as good drinking water, horseshoe courts are provided for the convenience and entertainment of visitors, a delightful place to do serious birdwatching. The Agassiz Garden Club has succeeded in their efforts to help make this a beauty spot which will not only inspire all who visit the area but will serve to perpetuate the memory of the Walsh County pioneers.

In the early 1950's, one avenue adopted by the National Council of State Garden Clubs was to inspire and create a more beautiful America and a project of Memorial Gardens to be located on land in perpetual ownership in communities that would preserve and commemorate the memory of historical events and sites and of persons who have gone to their eternal reward.

It is a lasting tribute to create preservation, commemoration, and beautification through memorial garden in areas used by the public.

As members of the Agassiz Garden Club built and maintained the Pioneer Memorial Garden at Homme Dam, the first plantings were in the fall of 1959. The garden was dedicated in June 1961 along with the beautiful flag pole and flag that was given by all the American Legion clubs in Walsh County. The flag that now flies over the garden was flown over the White House in memory of all the pioneers of Walsh County.

The bronze plaque with the ox cart and inscribed "Dedicated to the memory of the Pioneers of Walsh County, was placed there in 1961 by the garden club.

Another project of the garden club was dedicated in June 1971, this was the Blue Star Memorial honoring all service men and women who served in all wars and this is placed in the garden area.

Many people visit the area each year, including some foreign diplomats.

The garden is 72 by 198 feet, a plan drawn up by Harry Graves,



Pioneer Memorial Garden Homme Dam, Park River

with a watering system installed that uses water from the lake. The Agassiz Garden Club has assured the County Commissioners that they would expect no financial aid, only police protection and so far they have not had any vandalism. Fund raising projects include the annual plant sale in May, post cards, a book of Garden Gimmicks, flower show tea, silent auctions, memberships, plus individual donations and memorials and selling historical spoons featuring the John Bakken sod house. Spoons are still available for sale at any time during the year.

In 1974, plans for three buffer years were drawn up. With the help of the Soil Conservation Service and Bill Moe of Grafton Floral, varieties such as ash, cotton aster, red-twigged dogwood, highbush cranberry, black paw, alpine currant and mock orange were selected. These will provide a colorful windbreak as well as berries for the birds. Several of the improvements have been made under the EIP plan. The club won many of the cash awards offered by the Sears Roebuck Environmental Improvement Plan and this money has helped with the upkeep expense.

Many activities are planned for the garden area. Each year bus loads of residents from the Grafton State School plan to have picnics in the sanctuary area. Families and organizations use the area for their meetings. Fish Fries, turkey barbeque and fishing derbies have been sponsored by the Park River Commercial Club and J.C.'s.

Most of the upkeep of the garden is done by hired caretakers. In the early stages of development a few loyal members gave many hours of free labor and furnished plants. Many of them are still working and giving generously of their time and talents to make the club projects successful.

Through the efforts of many of the caretakers and club members the garden has been maintained well. Hamilton Berg, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Swehla, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Greicar and Russell Ramsey have served as caretakers. Garden club members who have served as garden attendants have been Mr. and Mrs. John L. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Leo Hennessey, Clara Paur, Dora Larson, Lilly Akre, John Sveen, Ed Skyrud and now Gertrude Hodny is garden attendant. Dora Larson is chairman of the Garden Club and they have plans for the area, new name plates, etc., and they also hope to see many visitors in 1984. The Homme Recreational area was named in memory of H.G.

Homme. He was born and raised in Walsh County, a prominent business man and mayor of Grafton. He rendered the first service given to the club by informing them on how to obtain information on the status of recreational projects. We deeply regret that he passed away before the project was developed as he spent much time and effort in promoting the plan.

Dora Larson- Chairman of the Pioneer Memorial Garden,
Historian

BOOK AND DISCUSSION CLUB



Charter Members present at 25th Anniversary (L-R): Edith Bateman, Marge Severson, Dorothy Kenny, Beulah Hardy, Virginia Meagher and Lil Thorleifson.



40th Anniversary - 1978

In March 1938 four ladies from Park River met to form a new club of some kind. They were Edith Bateman, Marge Severson, Dorothy Anderson and Margaret Lee. They decided on a Study Club and each was to invite three others to the first meeting which was held at the home of Margaret Lee on March 21. Dorothy Kenney was elected president, a position which she held for five years.

The charter members of the club besides the original four were Mabel Dougherty, Frances Erickson, Dorothy Kenney, Claryse Falgren, Beulah Hardy, Ruth Hudson, Virginia Meagher, Lillian Pengilly, Ann Rose and Lil Thorleifson. Virginia Meagher and Lil Thorleifson are current members.

The object of the club is to study various subjects for intellectual growth and cultural improvements. Club members have purchased and read hundreds of books through the years. Books are passed on to the City Library when all members have read them.

During the early years the members gave assistance to the Library, helping to rearrange the Dewey system and mend books. At Christmas time, the club often helped a needy family with food and clothing.

The club meets the first and third Monday in the afternoon. Books are still exchanged, but the meetings are informal. The present 1983 officers are Mary Argetsinger, president; Margaret Meagher- vice president; Dorothy Geston, secretary-treasurer; Avis Hajcek, librarian. The other members living in Park River are Virginia Meagher, Lil Thorleifson, Beulah Hardy and Eleanor Lewis.

Members present at the 40th anniversary of the Book and Discussion Club in 1978- first row: Avis Hajcek, Margaret Thorfinson, Edith Bateman, Virginia Meagher. Second row, Annie O'Brien, Beulah Hardy, Florence Johnson, Dorothy Geston. Third row, Margaret Meagher, Ann Harris, Mary Argetsinger, Dorothy Kenney and Eleanor Lewis.

G.F.W.C. DECCA CLUB

The Park River GFWC Decca Club, a study club, was organized on Monday night, September 10, 1951 at the home of Mrs. Harold Gillespie (Frances). Mrs. L.R. (Irene) Hankey was appointed temporary chairman and Mrs. Blair Chapman was appointed temporary secretary. Seven women met first and three more were added to make the membership total 10 at a meeting on September 13, 1951, at which time a constitution and the by-laws were adopted. The members were: Mrs. Floyd (Joan) Fail; Mrs. Blair (Donna) Chapman; Mrs. L.R. (Irene) Hankey; Mrs. Gordon (Betty Jean) Greenwood; Mrs. Wallace (Claire) Simonson; Miss Alice Shortridge (Mrs. Earl Olson); Mrs. D.U. (Gail) Meberg; Mrs. Percy (Leona) Walstad; Mrs. Jay (Carol Ann) Lewis; Mrs. Harvey (Glenna) Tallackson.

Mrs. Marvin Sorenson (Gerry) and Mrs. W.C. Skjerven (Margrete) joined in November of 1951.

The September 13 meeting was held at the home of Mrs. Percy Walstad. The name DECCA was adopted, meaning ten in Latin. The club would meet once a month at the homes of the members. The club flower was the tulip and the club colors were lavender and white. The club would be an affiliate of the General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC). The Fortnightly Club of Park River was instrumental in its organization. The club adopted a sixteen member membership.

The first Decca Club officers elected were: Mrs. L.R. Hankey, president; Mrs. Percy Walstad, vice president; Mrs. Blair Chapman, recording secretary; Mrs. Jay Lewis, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Wallace Simonson, treasurer; Mrs. Gordon Greenwood, historian; Mrs. Harvey Tallackson, Mrs. D.U. Meberg and Mrs. Floyd Fail were on the first program committee.

Through the years the club has been having educational and informative programs, conforming with the national and State GFWC. The club also has been very active in community and city projects.



DECCA

Seated: CHARTER MEMBERS: (l. to r.) Glenna Tallackson, Gail Meberg, Margrete Skjerven and Leona Walstad. Standing: (l. to r.) Helen June Gunderson, Leone Clarens, Cindy Domres, Marion Onstad, Joanne Sandy, Pud Thompson, Ardel Meberg, Joyce Torgerson, Joyce Ramsey, Charlotte Dahl, Colleen Samson and Nancy Espelien.

One of the first projects the club had was "Yarn for Europe". Another was Brownie Girl Scouts. Some of the major projects through the years have been the Big Park Project (furnishing a sign, gravel, flower garden, bike rack, playground equipment and bleachers). Red Cross classes were another big project. In later years, the major project was spearheading a fund raising along with the Fortnightly Club, to purchase band uniforms for the Park River High School Band. Over \$10,000 was raised and the band wears their uniforms with pride. Money was raised by many rummage sales and other ways, but the big fun event was the Gong Show.

Other projects carried out through the years have been: financial help to students attending International Music Camp, financial help in sponsoring a girl to Girls State, eye testing clinics, blood donor clinics, adopted children at State School in Grafton, library, bookmobile, Jamestown Hospital, cheerboxes for needy, CARE, cancer drives, Home of the Week contests and many others.

Decca Club's main money-making project has been the annual rummage and book sale.

We have had many entertaining events through the years, such as the famous "Hubby" parties and picnics, music fun night, singing and performing skits.

Our members have held all the offices of the club, as well as various district and state officers. Two members have been District I president of the North Dakota GFWC- Glenna Tallackson in 1966-67 and Nancy Espelien in 1983-84.

The Decca Club celebrated their 15 year milestone with a tea and invited the Fortnightly Club and former Decca members. In 1976, the club celebrated its 25th anniversary with a program and tea, also entertaining the Fortnightly Club, former members and district officers. Mrs. Wallace Thompson wrote the following poem to commemorate the event:

DECCA

--Pud Thompson

On September 10, in "51"

The DECCA Club has now begun.

With lavender and white the color scheme,

The tulip is the flower dream.

Irene Hankey the first president,

Ten members to fulfill club accomplishments.

Leona Walstad was president in "52"

Sixteen members were now her crew.

Brownie project in "53"

Donna Chapman the referee.

The district meeting in Park River in "54"

With Fortnightly and Decca to share the floor.

Betty Greenwood in "55",

The sale of Forget-Me-Nots is now alive.

A first among members is talent night,

Some of the acts were just a fright.

Safety projects, stop signs, no U-turns and parallel parking,

With Lorraine Meberg in "56" sparking.

First Aid was also on the ramp,

And sending someone to Music Camp.

In "57" Glenna Tallackson had the chair,

With community achievement in the air.

Sewing Contest and First Aid classes,

With Chuck Johnston to teach us lasses.

Margrete Skjerven is "58" making plans for the jubilee,

And all members looking back to their ancestry.

In "59" a finished float,

Gail Meberg now oaring our boat.

Pete Hanson, our Lounge chair had won,

Work on the library had begun.

A cancer booth at the fair was swell,

Does anyone remember (The Saga of Little Nell)?

Marion Onstad in "60" took over at Stan's Cafe,

And plans were started for Federation Day.

Our "10th Anniversary" now that was wild,

And also this year we adopted our child.

In "61" Lorraine Daley we did hear,

This was Dakota Centennial year.

In "62" was Gene O'Toole,

But resigned, because her husband went back to school.

Pud Thompson took over in July,

To keep the club rolling that is why.

A parliamentary procedure meeting in the City Hall,

Mantoux tests at the school for all.

Jeanne Kouba took over in "63" of May

A picnic that year for Beverly K.

Tradition that year was also broken,

\$3.00 to \$5.00 was the token.

Joyce Ramsey in "64",
Park project started with a roar.

A Girl Stater we did not fail,
North Dakota notes were now for sale.

In "65", park project really flew,
Bike racks, flower beds, toilets too.

Lorraine Meberg again in charge,
It seemed no project for Decca is too large.

In "66" Bonnie Sturlaugson took over the gavel,
Again the club began to travel.

For Community Improvement, \$200.00 from Sears,
But this wasn't accomplished without a few tears.

Fifteen years we now celebrate, which have gone by,
And we hope that Decca will never die.

Five more years have passed, it's now "72",
We have four charter members and all the rest of us would like
to honor you.

We realize a flower isn't much for all you've done for us,
But after all these years I'm sure you know, that Decca doesn't
fuss.

It's our 20th Anniversary this 8th day of May,
We are proud to have you with us through all these years and
we'd like to say,

Thank you Gail, Glenna, Leona and Margrete too,
From Decca we are all proud to honor you.

Oh my goodness! more years so quickly have gone by,
It's our silver jubilee, all us older ones did sigh.

And here we are at Glenna T's to celebrate with you,
All our old members and Fortnightly too.

As I look around the room, everyone has changed a bit,
A few grey hairs, some different teeth and a few lumps on the
hips.

But all in all everyone here looks really great,
Tonight we'll reminisce of all the years gone by of late.

And hope in 1986 we are all back here to celebrate.

Four charter members still remain in the club membership.
Mrs. D.U. Meberg, Mrs. Percy Walstad, Mrs. Harvey Tallackson
and Mrs. W.C. Skjerven. Mrs. Paul Torgerson served as
president of Decca in 1982-83, and Mrs. Wallace Thompson is
serving as president in 1983-84.

The present membership is as follows: Mrs. R.D. Clarens
(Leone); Mrs. Allen Dahl (Charlotte); Mrs. Terry Domres
(Cindy); Mrs. Orvin Espelien (Nancy); Mrs. Winten Gunderson
(Helen June); Mrs. Paul Meberg (Ardell); Mrs. D.U. Meberg
(Gail); Mrs. Merle Onstad (Marion); Mrs. Gordon Ramsey
(Joyce); Mrs. Paul Samson (Colleen); Mrs. Jerry Sandy
(Joanne); Mrs. W.C. Skjerven (Margrete); Mrs. Harvey
Tallackson (Glenna); Mrs. Wallace Thompson (Pud); Mrs. Paul
Torgerson (Joyce); Mrs. Percy Walstad (Leona).

ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR MARY C CHAPTER No. 20

Mary C Chapter No. 20, Order of the Eastern Star, was
instituted in Park River on June 10, 1895. Charter members were
Lizzie McEwan, Louisa Green, Florence Fallis, Harriet A.
Parker, Julia A. Hughes, Andrene Martin, Alice C. Trotter, Floss
E. Lord, Annie E. Lord, Celia S. Ervin, Eliza E. Whittemore,
Emma Aslakson, Minnie Aslakson, J.D. Campbell, George
McEwan, George Towle, W.F. Fallis, Frank Hughes, B.F. Green,
Thomas Trotter, H.C. Libbie, C.D. Lord, Charles Parker, J.J.
Ervin, L.A. Whittemore, H.R. Aslakson and James R. Martin.

On March 11, 1896, the organization was given permission by
Golden Valley Lodge AF & AM to hold meetings in their hall.
Standard by-laws were adopted and meetings were held the first
and third Wednesdays of each month. (Later meetings were
changed to the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month). The
initiation fee was \$3.00; dues were \$2.00 payable semi-annually.
(The initiation fee was later raised to \$5.00 and annual dues to
\$3.00. Again in 1968 annual dues were raised to \$5.00).

In 1900 the Chapter was informed that the state had been
divided into districts in order to appoint deputies to hold
conventions for the promotion of the work, and on March 21, 1900
"Convention" was held in Park River. Previous to conventions,
the Worthy Grand Matron visited each chapter. In later years the
"Conventions" came to be known as district schools of
instruction and are still held annually in the fall of the year.

In 1901 the Masonic Lodge moved from its first location to the
Code building (now an apartment above the Coast to Coast Store)
where the fraternal orders remained until April of 1948 when the
Masons purchased the Methodist Church building on 5th Street.

In 1925 Mary C Chapter voted to honor with life memberships
all who had been members for 25 years. The following were given
this honor: C.D. Lord, Annie E. Lord, Sarah Catherwood, Bertha
Farup, and Janet Walstrom. In the following years the names of
Emmeline Robertson, Maggie Arnot, Lillie Soll, Minnie Young,
Karen Johnson, Mabel Peck, Mary Gates, Christine Church,
Johanna Coulter, and Minnie Masloski were added. Later, the
Chapter discontinued this practice.

The new temple building on 5th Street was ready for occupancy
early in 1948 and the Stars began the major project of furnishing
and equipping the kitchen and dining room. The first regular
meeting was held in the new location on April 13, 1948. This
building continues to serve as the Masonic Temple at the present
time.

Rainbow for Girls was instituted on May 19, 1948 sponsored by
Mary C Chapter. Margaret Meagher was the first Mother
Advisor. Many girls served as officers in the local assembly and
several attained honored positions in the Satate Assembly. Also,
many dedicated Star members served as Mother Advisors of the
local assembly. Rainbow for Girls was disbanded in 1974 due to
lack of membership.

Past Matron's Club was organized in March of 1957 and is open
to all Eastern Star members who have served as Worthy Matrons
of the chapter. The group holds semi-annual dinner meetings
each year.

In 1970 Mary C Chapter celebrated its 75th Anniversary with a
special banquet and evening meeting at which time members
were honored for their many contributions and loyal devotion to
the organization.

Fund-raising projects have included socials, food and
rummage sales, cards and stationery sales, white elephant sales,
silent auctions and serving banquets and receptions.

Through the years the Chapter has contributed to the Red

Cross, Salvation Army, Children's Village, Dunseith Sanitarium Near East Relief, Shrine Hospital, Cancer Society, Heart Assoc., and all Eastern Star projects. During drought-stricken years, members sent boxes to needy families and provided Christmas gifts for local children.

The following members have received Grand Chapter appointments: Elsie Catherwood, Grand Martha (1932) and Grand Adah (1935); Ethel Thiele, Grand Electa (1956); Beverly Hall, Grand Esther (1962); Aldis Sturlaugson, Grand Esther (1963); Eileen Neste, Grand Ruth, (1973); and Roberta Coleman, Grand Adah (1983).

Charles F. Harris was elected and served as Worthy Grand Patron of North Dakota in 1965. Victor Sturlaugson also served as Worthy Grand Patron in 1963 while still a member of Lebanon Chapter in Langdon.

Many other members have received Grand Chapter appointments as District Deputies, Pages, Grand Representatives, choir members and Grand committee members.

At the present time, Mary C Chapter has fifty-one members. They are: Dorothy Amstrup, Mary Argetsinger, Edith Bateman, June Bjorneby, Doris Burbidge, Roberta Coleman, Ada Coulter, Mary Erickson, Violet Ferguson, Eleanor Ford, Florice Ford, Gladys Gates, Betsy Gillespie, Walter Gillespie, Margaret Gutterud, Melvin Gutterud, Beverly Hall, Anna Harris, Vera Hunter, Helen Infeld, Florence Johnson, Ruth Johnson, Marion Jonasson, Naomi Kitzie, Inez Laugtug, Marjory Lee, Eleanor Lewis, Gladys Lewis, Edythe Lovaasen, Donette Mandt, Margaret Meagher, Virginia Meagher, Leona McEwen, Eileen Neste, Lee Neste, Annie O'Brien, Ann Overbye, Lorraine Papenfuss, Joyce Peoples, Susan Piltingsrud, Elaine Roholt, Aldis Sturlaugson, Bonnie Sturlaugson, Lee Sturlaugson, Ethel Thiele, Laufey Thorleifson, Ethel Thorson, Marjory Walters, Corrine Wang, Gertrude Walty and Ralph Walty.

FEDERATED CHURCH WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS

The churches and Sunday Schools were joined in September, 1938, but the ladies' groups still had some projects to finish before they were ready to federate. Some were reluctant to disband the groups where they had spent so many hours and years as a close knit group. Perhaps a closer look at some of the activities will help us to understand why the federation was so long in being accomplished.

The earliest available records for the Presbyterian Missionary Society are from 1902. It is supposed that the first records were burned in the fire of 1913.

In 1902, the ladies met every week and paid dues of five cents per week. They met in homes and had sewing projects to raise money. One of the most popular was quilting and the ladies had a standard price of \$2.00 for quilting a quilt and twenty cents for tying a quilt. One afternoon, six ladies tied two quilts at forty cents. Another afternoon, they had completed all projects so spent the afternoon making buttonholes for the hostess.

By the 1960's, this particular group seemed to have collected all the older ladies of both churches and their monthly meetings were the social highlight of their lives. They had recruited enough granddaughters of the original members who were willing to help them enjoy this special time of fellowship. Most of the members were in their late eighties and early nineties and living alone, so eating together had a special meaning. It was always a source of pride that they always met their share of their apportionment. As the membership dwindled this group merged with others.



Women of the Presbyterian Missionary Society, Oct. 1959.

Vera Warner Fisher, Violet Parke, Maggie McLean, Mary Stevens, Agnes Gillespie, Edna Parke, Isabelle Shaw and Sarah Meagher.

The Ladies Aid of both denominations were active in keeping the church going. In the early years, they had fall suppers, with small bazaars, which has changed into large bazaars and lunches.

The ladies seemed to feel that the kitchen was their department and records show that they remodeled and added to the facilities as their funds allowed. Whenever the Church Board needed help they responded with money.

In 1903, Park River held a fair and the ladies sold paper weights with a picture of the church in them. Some of these are still around today. The fair grounds, complete with race track, were located where the High School stands today. The ladies also had a booth and sold lunches.

The Ladies Aid has always taken an active part in providing "extras" for the church and manse. Curtains, drapes, stoves and other necessities. They are an auxiliary unit in that, they get the approval of the Board for any major project they are contemplating.

In 1950, an evening circle was formed to accomodate the mothers of small children and the many working women. In 1956, one large group was formed instead of small groups, with Mrs. Alex (Ione) Ford as the first president of the new Federated Ladies Aid.

It is business "as usual" for the ladies and they are still busy working in and for the church as they have from the very beginning. They are always available for weddings, showers, funerals, or whatever activities may be the order of the day.

FORTNIGHTLY STUDY CLUB

The first regular meeting of the newly organized General Federation of Womens Clubs was held January, 1946. Fifteen members were present. Alice Knutsen, president; Joyce Woll, vice president; Ethel Thiele, secretary; Ardis Sherwood, treasurer; Pat Nelson, historian, were the officers named for the first year.

At the second bimonthly meeting of the club the members chose the sweet pea as their flower, silver and blue for their colors and for their motto, Educational Relations Make the Strongest Tie. The printing of program booklets was authorized.

Suitable community projects under discussion were the organization of PTA, a bus route from Devils Lake to Grafton, an outdoor sign for the City Library, a city water softener, food and

candy sale, home talent play, Mother-Daughter banquet.

A custom since the beginning of the club has been the unison reading of Mary Stewart's collect "Keep us O God From Pettiness", and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, at the opening of each meeting.

Rosamond O'Brien was the first delegate to the North Dakota state convention of the General Federation of Womens Clubs.

The school board was contacted with the suggestion to hire an Art and Music teacher for the grade school. The club voted to join the Book of the Month Club and buy no more than twelve books a year, donating them to the city library.

In 1948 the club voted to sponsor a kindergarten, which we managed for seven years. The club was denied room in the grade school so for the first years the basement room under the steps at the City Hall was used as a classroom. We were finally given permission to use the lunch room at the grade school. The teachers included were: Inez Lien, Lil Thorleifson, Pat Larson, Beulah Hardy, and Gladys Currie. In 1953 the club got out the vote at a city election and were successful in incorporating the kindergarten into the school system.

In 1950 the Fortnightly Club started the practice of sending a Junior girl to Girls State. This has been an exciting and rewarding experience for the girls. Our first representative was Lona Malde. We have sent a girl every year since. A notable fact is that seven of the girls were the daughters of Phyllis Cowger.

In 1951 we participated in sponsoring the first Blood Bank and with Decca Club, have held two each year since.

Another project for the club was raising money for our future hospital. Each member contributed \$5.00; we held a benefit card party, gave small coffee parties, held candy and food sales. We turned in \$150.00 to the Hospital Board to furnish a room in Fortnightly's name.

We also used club meetings to mend and letter books at the library. We have contributed annually to Florence Crittendon Home, Gifts to Mental Health, Care, Girl Scouts, Eyeglasses for the Needy; conducted drives for Candles for Korea, two March of Dimes city wide drives as well as food baskets for needy families.

Sponsored Lorene Larson for treasurer of North Dakota GFWC. She was the successful candidate and held office for eight years. Lorene was also named Woman of the Year in the Law category.

Started the project of publishing a cook book, containing our favorite recipes.

Raised money and donated \$141.00 to the Les Kelly swimming pool fund.

The club, in a book drive, gathered over one hundred fiction books to be placed in the grade school classrooms libraries.

1955 Rosamond O'Brien was elected state president of North Dakota General Federation of Womens Clubs.

1956 Verna Mahrer was named co-chairman of the North Dakota State Convention at Grand Forks.

Since 1957 we have contributed part scholarships to the International Music Camp each year. All the young people reported excellent teaching in their field.

1958, started a project to build a sidewalk and chain link six foot fence around the wading pool in the little city park. Turned \$383.00 for the cost of materials over to the park board, the city employees furnished the labor.

1959 the year of Park River's 75th Jubilee we cooperated with Decca and Sedicum clubs in building a parade float depicting the General Federation logo.

Donated to the WCAS band shirt fund, sponsored an Art Class, Community Betterment project cooperated with Decca club to pay for building a back stop for the softball diamond in Bateman Park.

We sponsored Mrs. Bert (Beulah) Hardy as our candidate for Mother of the Year.

Besides donating through business and family contributions, each club member donated \$5.00 to the Good Samaritan building fund.

Inga Montague was elected District 1 historian.

The City Council was asked to install a water fountain for summer use in the little City Park.

We sold North Dakota notes and place mats to publicize our state.

To celebrate America's bicentennial, the Fortnightly Club decorated three downtown windows with dioramas depicting; America, the Melting Pot of the Nations; salute to American poets "The Village Blacksmith" by Longfellow, and a salute to North Dakota's poet James Foley with "A Letter Home". With Decca Club we prepared a parade float saluting the First Americans- an Indian horse pulling a travois, members and children dressed in Indian costumes representing the seven tribes in Dakota, Sioux, Mandan, Hidatsa, Gros Ventre, Arikaras, Dakotas and Chippewas.

The next community betterment project undertaken by the Fortnightly and Decca clubs was to raise money for sorely needed band uniforms. We sponsored a benefit basketball game, a cake walk, Gong Show, many candy sales, food sales and rummage sales, sold popcorn, operated a lunch stand at auctions and tournaments. Betty Galloway donated an oil painting for raising money by selling chances. Received donations from area organizations, \$9,841.78 was turned over to the Music Department.

In 1976 the club started the practice of singing as an opening as well as collect and Pledge to the Flag.

For several years we sponsored Childrens Theatre.

With Decca we purchased commemorative plates suitably framed in blue velvet, to hang in the hallway at the Good Samaritan Center.

The Fortnightly Club donated a three by five foot flag to the Park Board for them to supply the pole and spotlight it for twenty-four hours a day.



FORTNIGHTLY STUDY CLUB July, 1983. Left to right: Mrs. Gordon Larson (Ora), Mrs. James A. Larson (Lorene), Mrs. Inga Montague, Mrs. Lorenz Mahrer (Verna). Back row: Mrs. Lu Kelly, Mrs. Gary Paulson (Lyla), Mrs. Victor Johnson (Verna), Mrs. Gerald Sobolik (Shirley), Mrs. James Worley (Leanne), Mrs. Pat DeLeon (Stella) and Mrs. Ed Palmer (Kathy). Members not pictured: Mrs. Dennis Clarke (Audrey), Mrs. Charles Dub (Margaret), Mrs. Greg Erovick (Donna), Mrs. Jay Lewis (Carol), Mrs. Wm. Skjerven (Stella) and Mrs. Bob Jorgenson (Collette).

We started a new project, that of picking the most beautiful Yard of the Week during the summer months.

We made a donation to the Good Samaritan Mini Bus fund in memory of Ann McIntyre. Donated \$15.00 to Good Sam for those not receiving Christmas gifts.

Members worked at the Art Show held during the State Potato Show, cataloguing and hanging art. Presented a quilt block to be added to a quilt for Mary Jo Shide retiring International President of the General Federation of Womens Clubs. Mary Jo is a member of the Larimore Study Club in District 1.

Every year we present entertainment and the birthday party lunch at Good Samaritan.

In 1981 a new project was instituted. The Fortnightly club with the approval of the Commercial Club solicited advertising items from the business places and arranged to call on the new residents with the Welcome Basket. This service has been well received.

We have enjoyed the many reports of the foreign students attending our high school, book reports, travelogues and items of interest have all been enjoyed.

The Fortnightly Club has been functioning for thirty-seven years, Lorene (Mrs. James A.) Larson is the only charter member still on the club's roster.

Submitted by Verna Mahrer

GIRLS SPONSORED TO GIRLS STATE BY FORTNIGHTLY STUDY CLUB

1950-Lona Malde

1951- Yvonne Severson

1952-Roberta Cowger

1953-Joanne Bina

1954-Camille Thiele

1955-Ruth Meberg (Girl's State and Girl's Nation)

1956-Marilyn Smestad

1957-Janice Gillespie

1958-Nancy Mahrer

1959-Mary Cowger

1960-Cheryl Owens

1961-Lynda Montague

1962-Audrey Cowger

1963-Jane Cowger

1964-Dianne Horgan

1965-Charlotte Horgan

1966-Susan Clemetson

1967-Bonnie Larson

1968-Julie Lewis

1969-Ruth Cowger

1970-Pat Cowger

1971-Joan Cowger

1972-Mary Clarens

1973-LuAnn Mahrer

1974-Patty Erovick

1975-Sandy Ramsey

1976-Kathy Pederson

1977-Sara Daley

1978-Melanie Dub

1979-Susan Fjestad (Music Camp)

1980-Lynette Koski

1981-Amy Flaten

1982-Sheri DeLeon

GOOD SAMARITAN CENTER

Early in the year 1974 the Lutheran Sunset Foundation Corporation let it be known that they were going to close the Rena Farup Hansen Home in Park River. Henry Kelly was President of the Park River Community Development Corporation and he immediately set about trying to find alternatives for the 13 residents of the Rena Hansen Home. Other members of the Community Development Corporation at that time were: Densel Mason, Harold Anderson, Clint Quenzer, Gilfred Moen, Ronald Dahl, Roland Bateman, Lorenz Mahrer, W.C. Skjerven, and Arvid Brockman. Clint Quenzer was also on the Agassiz Health Council and another meeting was set up with this council as well as the Walsh County Social Services Administrator, Lois Stanislawski, to arrange for a survey and start procedures for a Certificate of Need so plans could go ahead for a nursing home in Park River. A public meeting was called in April of 1974 and a

steering committee was named to work for a 50-60 bed nursing home. Named to this committee were: Eugene Loftsgard, Park River; Luther Berntson, Adams; Gladys Huseby, Fordville; Earl Marifjeren, Park River; Wilmer Vorachek, Lankin; Lloyd Staven, Park River; Ludger Kadlec, Pisek; Ray Foerster, Conway; Lloyd Gire, Edinburg; Lloyd Oberg, Hoople; Joe Hall, Gardar; Ernest Amundrud, Fairdale; Joe Laaveg, Park River; Roger Gaarder, Park River; Arden Burbidge, Park River; Dean Miller, Fordville; Andy Seim, Edinburg; Lorenz Mahrer, Park River; Don Casement, Fordville; Junis Dostert, Fairdale; Chris Midgarden, Hoople; Allyn Fagerholt, Hoople and Mayor Percy Walstad, Park River.

At the next meeting of this committee the guest speaker was Pierce B. McKay, the Executive Director of the Agassiz Health Council. He suggested the feasibility study and the Certificate of Need. Also at this meeting Agnes Henderson was elected president of the group. Dean Miller was chosen vice president. Earl Marifjeren was elected secretary and Arden Burbidge was elected treasurer.

The Good Samaritan Society was contacted and they approved the plans for a nursing home in Park River. Things began to happen as the community began to raise the \$300,000 that was to be the communities' share for the nursing home. Probably the biggest community fund-raising event was the Variety Show in January of 1975 which gave \$2300 to the Fund.

In January, 1975, the announcement was made that the Rena Hansen Home would close in May of 1975.

In March 1975, 19 townships and eight towns were represented at the Agassiz Health Council meeting and the Certificate of Need was granted for an 80 bed facility. Clint Gehring and Bill Clapper represented the Good Samaritan Society at these meetings. An audit committee was now set up consisting of Harold McLaughlin, Lankin; Tom Graham, Park River; and Loren Miller, Park River. \$315,000 was donated to date for the Good Samaritan Home in Park River.

By May of 1975 arrangements were completed with the Walsh County Commissioners and the City of Park River signed the bonds to finalize the financing of the center so construction could begin.

On August 2, 1975, Arden Burbidge acted as Master of Ceremonies for the groundbreaking event. President Agnes Dougherty Henderson took the first shovelful of dirt away for the construction of the facility. This was the beginning of the \$1,138,000 project. Ralph Adamsen of Grafton was the contractor for the project. On August 25 construction started under the direction of Paul Newman representing the Good Samaritan Society. The opening was scheduled for July 1, 1976.



Good Samaritan Center

The Good Samaritan Center of Park River did open on the 1st of July, 1976, with Jim Worley as Administrator. Carole Coler, R.N., was Director of Nurses. Mary Osland was the Social worker. Della Danielson was supervisor of the kitchen, Vivian Setness was supervisor of Housekeeping. Gilman Seboe was maintenance man. LeAnne Worley was head of the activity department as well as the newspaper reporter.

Residents from the Rena Hansen Home were admitted to the Good Samaritan Center the first week in July of 1976. First to be admitted was Hedvig Fjeld, and she was followed by Anna Elton, Anna Maresh, Lillian Diemer, Emma Sherek, Meranda Anderson, Minnie Slette, Ole Austad, Hamilton Lindell, Chris Reiten, Albert Dub, Edwin Setterdahl and Laudie Lovcik. Six of these residents are still making their home at the Center.

In September 1976, the first meeting of the Good Samaritan Advisory Board was called. Members had been chosen and letters of consent returned to the Center. Elected president of this group was Doris Burbidge, Park River. Vice president was Duncan Meagher, Park River. Lennart Almen, Park River, was secretary. Joe Hall, Gardar, was elected to serve as treasurer. Other members of the Board were: Agnes Henderson, Park River; Myrlin Troftgruben, Adams; Leona Walstad, Park River; Dean Miller, Fordville; Harold McLaughlin, Lankin; Joe Laaveg, Park River; Leonard Jensen, Edinburg; and Lorenz Mahrer, Park River.

In July of 1982 the Good Samaritan Society celebrated their 60th anniversary. Each Center planted a tree to mark the anniversary. The Good Samaritan Center in Park River celebrated their sixth anniversary with a program and dedication ceremonies for the tree planting event.

HAPPY HOUR SENIOR CITIZENS

A meeting was held in the Park River City Hall on October 22nd, 1976 to organize a Senior Citizens Club. Present to help with the organization were three officers of the Walsh County Senior Citizens Council- Henry Lundene, President; Leonard Jensen, vice president; Thelma Wick, secretary, and Mrs. Mary Thibedeaux- Aging Coordinator for Region IV.

A slate of officers was selected as follows:

Advisor- Ms. Thelma Wick

President- Ms. Inga Montague

Vice President- Ms. Elvina Gunderson

Treasurer- Ted Loftsgard

Secretary- Ms. Harold Falter

Directors- Olaf Malde, George Widme, Jerry Smazik, Thelma Wick, Harold Harris, John Peterson and Harold Falter.

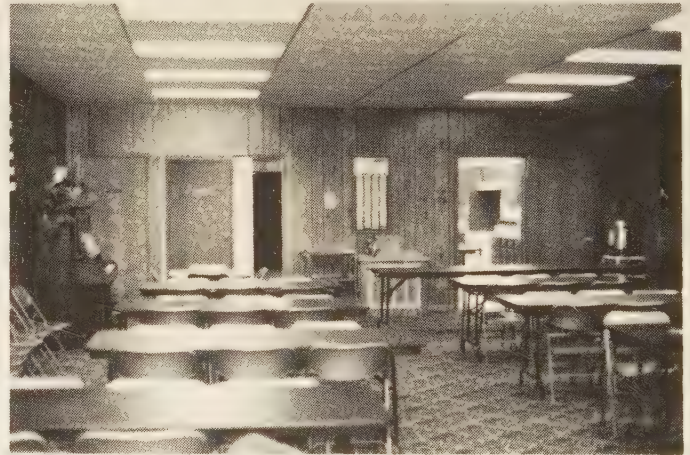
We were given permission by the City Council to use the City

Hall basement for our club meetings, rent free. It was decided to hold two meetings a month, on the first and third Friday- one meeting to be a potluck supper. The fiscal year of the club was to begin on November 1st. Persons fifty-five and older are eligible for membership.

Names for the newly organized club were balloted on and the name suggested by Ms. John Johnson "The Happy Hour Senior Citizens Club" received the most votes. A draft of the by-laws was presented and this was studied and approved by the club. A committee contacted an attorney and had him draw up the Articles of Incorporation, secure IRS rating, etc. and so we became an established club.

In the next three to four years we became an active and important part of the lives of the Retirement Age Citizens of Park River. We held regular meetings, special meetings, bazaars, food sales, public suppers, entertained neighboring clubs, assisted with drives for charitable causes, purchased equipment for our future home. All this was done with the fixed idea that some day this would lead to having our own Senior Citizens Center.

In 1978 the Club decided to sponsor the Nutrition program in Park River. This is a County-wide project under the direction of the Walsh County Senior Citizens Council. Sponsoring this project in a particular town meant long hours of volunteer work and helping in many ways, but this was willingly supplied by Happy Hours club members. These meals were to be served at the Curling Club five days a week, Mondays through Fridays at noon.



Interior of the Happy Hour Senior Citizens building

Then in 1980, the long awaited day arrived. The club was presented with a vacant store building on main street, from the City of Park River. Thus began an extremely busy two years for club members. Of prime importance was the securing of a \$20,000 grant from the Federal Government, a \$5,000 grant from the Walsh County Senior Citizens Council, securing grants and donations from various foundations, and also generous cash contributions from private citizens, plus a loan from our city bank. Renovating and repairing the building was estimated at a cost of \$46,000.00.

June 5, 1981, is a special day in our history-- we moved into our new home, and on September 13, 1981, we hosted an Open House for the public. The Nutrition program was also moved from the Curling Club to our Center.

During 1982 our special project was the compiling of a cookbook entitled Treasured Recipes from Our Kitchens- Happy Hours Senior Citizens Club, Park River, N.D. This proved to be a successful venture and added a nice sum to the club treasury.

1983 was a banner year for us as we completed the large recreation and craft room, behind the central room of the Center.

Paneling, attractive flooring; light fixtures, a new ceiling, and heating facilities were installed, completing work on a Center of which we are very proud.

Current officers of the club are as follows:

President-Mrs. Wm. Skjerven, Sr.

Vice President-Mrs. Iola Radliff

Secretary-Mrs. Ernest Dencker

Treasurer-Mrs. Olive Flanagan

Directors: Mrs. Inga Montague, Ms. Thelma Wick, Ernest Dencker, Mrs. Helen Torkelson, Leo Englerth, Harold Harris and Mrs. Art Bode.



Happy Hour Senior Citizens Club

HARMONY HOMEMAKERS

In the fall of 1930, a group of eleven women gathered at the Walsh County School, and under the leadership of Florence Peters, the Home Economics instructor organized a Homemaker Club for Park River. At this organizational meeting officers were elected as follows: president- Mrs. David Meberg; Vice President- Mrs. V.S. Irvine; Secretary and Treasurer; Mrs. J.L. Campbell. The other women who made up the list of charter members were: Mrs. E.G. O'Brien; Mrs. E. Carlen; Mrs. Fred Hultstrand; Mrs. B. Thompson; Mrs. Theodore Dahl; Mrs. O.J. Pedersen; and Mrs. S. Oen. The name chosen for the Club was the Harmony Homemakers Club, the colors were pink and green, and the wild rose the club flower.

The first scheduled meeting of the Harmony Club was held at the home of Mrs. E. Carlen on Thursday, Oct. 23, 1930. Five members joined the club at this meeting, namely; Mrs. Gust Strom, Mrs. H.O. Sauer, Mrs. Harry O'Brien, Mrs. N. Flom and Mrs. Pete Bye. Later on in the year three others joined: Mrs. Thos. Severson, Mrs. David Kinsala, and Mrs. Carl Olson, making a total of eighteen members by January 1931. A club constitution was adopted, a regular meeting date was settled upon, club dues were set, and the song "Home Sweet Home" was chosen for the adjournment song. Outstanding programs, besides the regularly scheduled ones, were a Lesson on Parliamentary Law given by Mrs. H. O'Brien, and a playlet "Keeping Track of Mr. Dollar".

In the succeeding years after the organization of the Harmony Homemakers Club, the pattern of the meetings was very similar to the original one. Many of the programs were planned through the Extension Service at the Fargo University, and by the Walsh County Extension Agent, and these programs were carried out by the various Homemaker Clubs.

Hence a History of a Club that has been in existence for 53 years would be repetitious and not too interesting. In order to avoid this, simply those events that deviate from the state and County programs will be mentioned, and the special programs celebrating our 25th, 35th, 45th and 50th anniversaries will be given special attention.

The President for the year 1931-1932 was Mrs. Theodore Dahl. Noteworthy events were the planting of a tree in the Cemetery in memory of the Pioneer Mothers; and the club voted to become a member of the North Dakota Federation of Womens Clubs.

In 1932-1933 Mrs. V.S. Irvine was President- activities included the presentation of an Icelandic Spinning Scene on the Achievement Day, and the presentation of the play "The Three Pegs".

In 1933-34- Mrs. John Bures was elected President of the Club. A Silver Tea was given for the benefit of the Public Library, a contribution was sent to Camp Grassick- a camp for needy children.

1934-35- Mrs. Lars Hylden became President. This year marked the withdrawal of the Club from the State Federation of Womens Clubs. The chief project was giving money to provide milk for undernourished children at City Grade School.

1935-36- Mrs. Lars Hylden was re-elected President. The same events and projects that had been enjoyed by the club the previous year were repeated.

1936-37- President was Mrs. Chas. Diebel- contributions included a donation of money to the Flood Sufferers, and a donation to the North Dakota Childrens Home in Fargo.

1937-38- Mrs. Hylden was re-elected President. A unique event this year was a "Calico Party" given for the teachers of the Park River Schools.

1938-1940- Mrs. George Peck served for two years as president. During this time club membership increased to 20, and the club voted the membership be limited to 25 members.

In the year 1940-41, Annie Burbidge served as President. This year the club helped purchase an encyclopedia for the City Library and made drapes for the windows. Many of the members sewed for the Red Cross.

1941-42- Mrs. Sandy Gillespie served as president. The outstanding project for this war year was a canning project, in which Club members canned 560 quarts of pickles and relishes; 400 pints of vegetables; 1098 quarts of fruit; 1127 glasses of jam and jellies; 20 quarts of tomato juice; and 3 pints of candied orange and grapefruit peel.

1942-43- Mrs. Gillespie was again president and the club's chief project was Red Cross work and bandage rolling.

1943-44- Mrs. Sig Engh was president and again the emphasis was on bandage rolling and making a contribution to the National War Fund.

1944-45- Mrs. Oscar Bygland as club president directed the clubs activities and projects along the usual lines.

1945-45- Mrs. Wm. Skjerven was chosen president. The club membership was now 21 and the dues were \$1.25 annually.

1946-47- Mrs. N. Lovaasen served as president. A new feature in club activity was the adoption of a family in Finland. A package of food and clothing was sent to them each month, with two club members in turn, packing and sending each box.

1948-49-Mrs. David Meberg, president. The club started a movement to organize a Parent- Teachers Association, and this became a reality the following year.

1949-1950- President Mrs. M.C. Adams. An outstanding meeting was a trip to the Experimental Station at Morden, Manitoba by club members and their families, followed by a picnic.

Highlighting the year 1950-51 with Mrs. Ben Middendorf as president, was the making of a United Nations Flag by the members. This flag was presented to the Walsh County Agricultural School.

1951-52- Mrs. Leslie Nappen became president when Mrs. R. Shortridge moved away. An enjoyable meeting was a corn roast in September.

In 1952-53 Mrs. Nappen again served the club as president. An innovation this year was the decision to have "Secret Pals" during the club year.

1953-54- Mrs. Theo. Hanson was elected president but later resigned and Mrs. Fred Silliman advanced to the presidency. This year the club became members of the Association of Country Women Of The World.

1954-55- When Mrs. Otto Fursteneau was president, the Constitution was revised and several amendments added.

1955-56- Mrs. Earl Johnson was president of the Club in this important Twenty-Fifth Anniversary year. There were two charter members remaining on the club roll- Mrs. Fred Hultstrand and Mrs. Theo. Dahl. At an anniversary banquet they received corsages, a program was given and the Club's scrapbooks and pictures reviewed.

1956-57- Mrs. Wm. Skjerven was elected president. In this year the club discontinued their Association with ACWW.

1957-58- Mrs. C.E. Lien was president. The secretary's book from the previous year was not turned in, so there is no official record of the clubs activities.

1958-59- Mrs. Paul Meberg was president. The club was asked to help plan the 75th Jubilee of Park River. They also helped to share expenses for a float in the parade.

1959-1960- President was Mrs. Leslie Nappen. This year the club prepared a booth for the Mid-Winter Fair, and a demonstration in the art of candle-making.

1960-61-President Mrs. George Widme led the club. This year they helped pay for a picnic table at Homme Dam, and contributed to the fencing of the wading pool in the City Park.

1961-62- Mrs. T.A. Daley headed the club. The club presented a Variety Act on Achievement Day.

1962-63- Mrs. Melvin Jergenson was president. Features of this years activities were a dinner meeting for the husbands, and a Homemaker Tour to Winnipeg.

1963-64- Mrs. Earl Johnson served as president. A traveling food basket was introduced as a money-making project.

1964-65- Mrs. Norence Lovaasen was president of the Thirty-Fifth Anniversary year. Mrs. Fred Hultstrand was honored at this special meeting as the only remaining charter member, and was presented with a bouquet of roses. Each member was presented a single rose and a special program was given.

1965-66- Elva Silliman was elected president. Achievement Day at Grafton included a tour of the newly constructed St. Johns Catholic Church. In June a trip to Winnipeg was enjoyed.

1966-67- With Mrs. George Rustan as president, the club had a busy year of activities and made contributions to many worthwhile projects.

1967-68- When President Mrs. Arne Carlson moved away from Park River, Mrs. Paul Meberg became president. This year the club purchased an American Flag and the Pledge to the Flag

now opens every meeting.

1968-69- Mrs. Wm. Skjerven, Jr., served as president. There was no secretary's book available recording the meetings, but slides of their recent trip to Norway and the Scandinavian Countries were shown by Thelma and Sylvia Wick at one meeting.

1969-1970- Mrs. Theo. Hanson was president this year. The club had a booth at the Mid-Winter Fair displaying "Topiary Trees." Harmony Club presented a talent number at Achievement Day-an original skit entitled "The Tater Family" written by Thelma Wick.

1970-71- Ida Widme served as president. Club members saved Betty Crocker coupons to secure a kidney machine for this area. Three of our members received 25 year membership spoons; Mrs. Ben Middendorf, Mrs. Leslie Nappen, and Mrs. Fred Silliman.

1971-72-President Mrs. Leslie Nappen. Members drove to Pisek to view the famous painting by the Czech artist Alfonse Mucha, which hangs in the Pisek Catholic Church.

1972-73- Thelma Wick- president. An interesting lesson each month, including "Glimpses of Europe" slides and travelogue by Sylvia and Thelma Wick; Homemaker Tour to Winnipeg, a tour of the new homes in this area; a paper on "Flowers of the Bible".

1973-74- President Mrs. Ernest Torfin. Slides were shown by Sena Anderson on her trip to Denmark. Another meeting featured beautiful millinery creations. The spring banquet featured a Hawaiian theme.

1974-75- President Sylvia Wick. The program for the year was centered on "Our American Heritage". The club was commended by the Centennial committee for having our entire year's program centered on the Centennial theme, "Heritage." The big event of the year was our Forty-Fifth Anniversary Banquet. Members wore pioneer costumes and antique articles were displayed and the program was centered on local musicians and composers. Harmony club presented an original skit entitled "Aunt Dinah's Quilting Party" written by Thelma Wick in which all club members participated. We also repeated this skit by request at the Colette Auditorium in Grafton, at the Foster Grandparents Recognition Day Program.

1975-76- Sylvia Wick was re-elected president. The programs continued to be centered around the Bicentennial theme, each program included an Historical Vignette. Another meeting featured an early American style dinner, including the foods eaten by the colonists. We had a beautiful float in the Centennial parade- using the theme "America- The Melting Pot". Minnie Hanson received her 25-year membership spoon this year.

1976-77-President Mrs. Theo. Hanson. One of the most interesting programs was "Dakota As It Was", based on pioneer life. The next meeting was a 6:30 dinner meeting featuring food made from recipes of that period.

1977-78- Ida Widme was president. Interesting roll calls were given. We made a visit to Alexander Henry's Fort (A rest area) and a visit to Sig Jagielski's Museum near Grafton. We also viewed some beautiful slides of places of interest that had been visited by Elaine Roholt.

1978-79- Thelma Wick was elected president. Six of our members worked at the Walsh County Fair and State Potato Show. A childrens party in keeping with the designation of this year being "The Year of The Child" was given. The club voted to eliminate the January, February and March meetings and instead to continue on through the summer months which previously had been a time of recess.

1979-80- Sylvia Wick was president. Some of the programs presented were; Minding Your P's and Q's; "Where Did All The



HARMONY HOMEMAKER CLUB

Park River, North Dakota

Back Row (l-r): Elva Silliman, Mary Parkins, Viola Middendorf, Mildred Torfin, Byrdie Staven, Ida Widme, Dorothy Stevens, Lisa Johnson and Clara Myrvik.

Front Row (l-r): Thelma Wick, Mrs. Florence Midgarden, (guest), Sylvia Wick, Elaine Roholt and Minnie Hanson.

Aprons Go?"; "Skin Care"; and "The Powder Puff Varieties". "Harmony" is the key to the longevity of the Harmony Homemakers Club and on June 19, 1980 they celebrated their Fiftieth Anniversary with a Banquet and program held in the Pheasant Room of Larson's Cafe.

The tables were beautifully decorated in the club colors- pink and green, and featured a centerpiece of wild roses- the clubs and green, and featured a centerpiece of wild roses, the club's flower. Behind the head table hung a large banner displaying the gold Fiftieth year symbol and a musical staff with the club's song "Home Sweet Home". The program centered around the Club's history, including the reading of the minutes of the first meeting and reports from the 25th, 35th, 45th anniversaries. Mrs. Florence Midgarden, who helped organize the club was an honored guest.

The club placed a tree in the Memorial Gardens at Homme Dam to commemorate their Golden Anniversary.

1980-81- Elaine Roholt was president of the club. A very interesting lesson was given by June Kraft, County Extension Agent, on her life in Korea as an exchange student. Other lessons included a lesson in wood carving, one on china painting. We made a tour of Hickory Farms.

1981-82- Mrs. Lloyd Staven served as president this year. Enjoyable outings included a dinner at the Grafton American Legion Club; a picnic in the Grafton City Park; our Christmas Banquet at Larson's Cafe. Special programs were given at Christmas, Thanksgiving and Easter.

1982-83- The president this year was Mrs. Milton Stevens, and the year included lessons on "Women In Action In Pioneer Day's"; "Pumpkins, Potatoes and Thanksgiving". Also several enjoyable parties, "May-Time Frolic"; a Costume Party; and a Hobo Party and Corn Roast.

Although the Club has adapted to change over the years, it basically remains the same, with the concluding line of the club Creed as their guideline: "To Teach and Live- Love of Home, Country, Fellowmen and God".

(History was compiled by Thelma Wick)

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

On December 11, 1958, an interested group of Knights gathered in the basement of the old St. Mary's Church in Park River. The purpose of the meeting was to explore the possibility of organizing a Knights of Columbus club at Park River. As a result of this meeting, it was decided to meet again January 8, 1959 to elect officers and carry out the necessary duties to establish a club. Dr. James K. O'Toole, was instrumental in organizing the Park River club.

At the January 8th meeting, Dr. J.K. O'Toole was elected president, Ed Brodina, vice-president, Louis J. Kadlec, secretary and Harold Falter, treasurer. Fr. J.J. O'Meara was named chaplain and Frank Soukup was appointed warden. Lorenz Mahrer was appointed club reporter. Twenty-three members were present to start the Park River club. The constitution and by-laws were read and accepted by the club.

Others serving as president of the club were Louis J. Kadlec and Verner Houdek.

After being a club for three years, as an affiliate of Bishop O'Reilly Council No. 3918, Grafton, the local members' hopes were finally realized when they organized their own Council at the instigation of Dr. O'Toole.

At special ceremonies which were held on Sunday, Dec. 4, 1960, Knights of Columbus members from Park River, Lankin, Pisek, Crystal, Veseleyville, Conway, Inkster and Forest River were initiated to the order at the Terra Cotta Hall in Pisek, N.D. Following the initiation ceremony at Pisek, the formal installation banquet was held in the basement of the Park River City Hall. Fred Colby, State Master, presented the charter of the officers of the newly-formed council were as follows:

Grand Knight-Dr. James K. O'Toole, Deputy Grand Knight and General Six-Point Chairman- Louis J. Kadlec; Chancellor- Marlin Lothspeich; Recording secretary- Vern Kahler; Treasurer- Bart Hankey; Warden- Richard Bugliosi; Advocate- Harold Matejcek; Inside Guards- Pat O'Toole and Antone Novak; Outside Guards- Joe O'Toole and John H. Novak; Trustees- Harold Falter, Lorenz Mahrer and R.J. Matejcek; Lecturer and Chairman of Council Activities- Joe Kouba; Chaplain- Fr. J.J. O'Meara.

Charter members are as follows: Ed Brodina, R.J. Bugliosi, Alden Burris, John Chyle, Jr., Harold Falter, Bart Hankey, Verner Houdek, Richard Janousek, Louis J. Kadlec, Louis D. Kadlec, Vern Kahler, Henry Kelly, Joe M. Kouba, G.J. Kuchar, Marlin Lothspeich, Lorenz Mahrer, Harold Matejcek, Pete Matejcek, Anton S. Novak, John H. Novak, L.J. Novak, W.F. Novak, Dr. J.K. O'Toole, J.P. O'Toole, L.J. O'Toole, P.P. O'Toole, R.L. O'Toole, J.J. Praska, Frank Soukup, K.L. Tanke, G.H. Trosen, Lawrence Vandal.

L.M. Biwer, A. Brodina, Herman Capouch, Rev. W.H. Crane, Clyde Dibble, John Geary, Carl Hankey, Paul Hankey, Joe M. Kadlec, Loren Kadlec, Ed Kelner, J.C. Kenney, R.R. Leonard, H.D. Long, D.M. Mattern, Ben Middendorf, C. Novak, Ed J. Novak, Mark J. Novak, Tom W. Novak, Anton Ochs, Rev. J.J. O'Meara, C.M. O'Sullivan, R.C. O'Toole, J.A. O'Toole, Bert Phelps, John Salwei, Peter Schuman, Rev. J. Tomanek, Anton Zidon, Steve A. Zidon, Joe A. Zikmund and Peter Zikmund.

Currently serving as Grand Knight is John Riske. Past Grand Knights include: Dr. James K. O'Toole, L.J. Kadlec, Bart Hankey, Richard Janousek, Evarist Barta, Tony Zidon, R.F. Matejcek, Lorenz Mahrer, Gerald Sobolik, Harold Matejcek, John H. Novak, Dan Houdek, Allen Swartz, Louis D. Kadlec,

William Suda, Joe Zikmund, Jr., Rudy Suda, Ray Alkofer, Ben Bina, Leon J. Schmitz, and Dennis C. Helt.

Council 5055 has received many National and State Knights of Columbus Awards including Star Council Award, Membership Awards, Insurance Honor Roll and Outstanding State Council Award.

The KC clubrooms are located on Highway 18. The updated clubhouse was formerly a school and the rural location, which has been the site of many functions, is centrally located for the convenience of Brother Knights in the surrounding area.

OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN LADIES AID

On the 12th day of May, 1892, eight ladies met at the home of Mrs. Andrew Anderson to organize the Ladies Aid. The officers they selected then were: President- Mrs. Andrew Anderson; secretary- Mrs. Ole Hasle, and Treasurer- Mrs. C.L. Finneseth. They met in homes every other Wednesday, had singing, scripture reading and prayer by the pastor and spent the rest of the afternoon sewing or knitting articles for sale.

By 1896, the membership had grown to eighteen members. In 1900 this group disbanded when the two Lutheran congregations merged. A joint meeting was held in April and a new Constitution was drawn up which was considerably more specific than the first. The new officers of this Aid were President-Mrs. Haldorsen, vice-president- Mrs. I.P. Overbye, Secretary- Mrs. P. Ostboe and Treasurer-Mrs. Ole Hasle. Their programs and meetings continued in the Norwegian language. Meetings were every other Wednesday with one yearly meeting.

The first church was built and dedicated in August of 1903. The 25th Anniversary came in 1917 and a gift of \$25 was sent to Missions instead of holding a "Fest" or social gathering. They were at that time busy with the planning of a basement under the church for their meetings and also with their Red Cross work and patriotic duties. The Aid held their first meeting in the basement in January 1919. Both English and Norwegian languages were used at the Aid meetings, but since 1931 the English language has been used exclusively.

In 1935, a banquet was held honoring the early members of the Aid and 12 ladies who had passed the age of 70 years were present. The membership had now reached 65. The Cradle Roll project was begun in 1936. In 1938, Mrs. T.T. Thompson was honored on her 75th birthday as well as having held the office of Treasurer for 27 years. She was given a life membership in the Women's Missionary Federation (WMF) in recognition of her faithful and well-performed services.

Besides our devotions, WMF program helps and other topics of interest are now used at the meetings. Six circles were organized in 1943. These met once a month and the WMF programs were used. Each circle served the Aid once a year.

The church was damaged by fire in November of 1943, from then until March, services were held in the Methodist Church. Circles disbanded and the Aid now met twice a month. Repairs on the church were completed in 1944 with an enlarged kitchen in the basement. Circles were again chosen.

Since 1940 much interest has been shown in the Bible Camp by encouraging our young people to attend by contributing a part of each individual's expense. A contribution of \$200 was given toward a chapel in 1945. We also continue by showing our interest



Our Saviour's Lutheran Ladies Aid, 1909, at Lutheran Parsonage, Park River, North Dakota - Joseph Guldseth, Gustav Guldseth, Esther Guldseth, Alma Burke, Dena Reinertson, Mrs. Ole Nest, Margaret Guldseth, Mrs. Henry Anderson, Mrs. Knut Wick, Mrs. I. Overbye, Mrs. C. Finneseth, Mrs. Ole Thorson. Mrs. Aamodt, Miss Dahlbak, Mrs. C. Larson, Mrs. Nels Marifjeren, Mrs. Omland, Mrs. Leseth, Mrs. A. Blecken, Mrs. T.T. Thompson, Mrs. Lars Jensen, Mrs. Young, Mrs. Gullickson,

Mrs. Reinertson, Mrs. Tom Johnson, Mrs. P. Ostboe, Mrs. Ole Pederson, Mrs. John Breiding, Amelia Mathiason, Rev. Olav Guldseth, Mrs. Weberg, Mrs. John Jensen, Mrs. Brandon, Mrs. Joe Pederson, Mrs. Rudee, Mrs. Guldseth, Mrs. M. Haldorrson, Mrs. O.P. Olson. Children: Mabel Marifjeren, Anna Haldorrson, Nettie Blecken, Anna Anderson, Lillian Guldseth, Leonard Jensen, Gunnar Guldseth, Jon Pederson.

and help with the Vacation Bible School each year. Each year generous contributions are made to Missions, Charities and other projects outside of our local church.

Savings for the new church were begun in 1946 with the Ladies Aid buying Bonds for \$1100 toward this project. The new church was completed in 1953 and dedicated November 14, 1954. It is impossible to mention all the accomplishments of the Aid. Whenever the Congregation has found itself unable to meet its obligations, it has called on the Aid who has graciously responded.

The merger of several Lutheran bodies became a reality in 1961 and the name of the Ladies Aid was changed to American Lutheran Church Women (ALCW). All confirmed women of the congregation automatically become members of the ALCW.

Through efforts of the ALCW, the church library was started in 1965. In 1967, the fall supper was discontinued and a free-will offering is taken in its place.

Since the beginning of Our Saviour's, the Ladies Aid has been a vital force in the life of the church with various projects of fellowship, financial aid and mission projects which have included sending over 100 quilts a year to Lutheran World Relief since 1971.

The Ladies Aid has been most generous through the years with their support for foreign missions, home missions, and the local fellowship activities, building projects, furnishings for the church and general upkeep.

May God grant we continue to be blessed with willing workers so His Kingdom may grow for many years to come.

Submitted by Gail Meberg, Margrete Skjerven
and Inga Montague)

PARK RIVER CITY LIBRARY

The Park River City Library was founded in 1900. Because of two fires that destroyed the City Hall, one in 1937 and one in 1967, many of the earlier reports were destroyed. We do have a statistical report for 1925. The directors, at that time, were as follows: Mrs. W.B. Simcox, Mrs. D.E. Mills, Mrs. C.D. Lord, Mrs. Harold King and Mrs. J.C. Overbye. The library, at that time, was open Wednesday and Saturday, 8 hours per week, and the librarian's salary was \$15.00 a month.

The library is housed in the Park River City Hall and is funded on one mill levy.

The following people have been librarians: Mrs. Theo Larson, 1935; Miss Mildred Ferguson (Mrs. Lloyd Gilbertson) 1936-1943; Mrs. Vera Warner Fisher, 1943-1959; Mrs. A.C. (Thelma) Bye, 1959-1967; Mrs. Art (Ardith) Erovick, 1967-1981; Miss Delores Dube, 1981-1982; Miss Kathy Kibler, summer of 1982; Mrs. Harry (Mary) Larson, 1982-1984.

The Library Board for 1983-84 are Mrs. Paul (Ardell) Meberg, President; Mrs. Stephen (Sue) Currie, Secretary- treasurer; Mrs. B.L. (Kaaren) Welch; Mrs. Cy (Vera) Hunter and Mrs. Bill (Margrete) Skjerven, Jr.

THE PARK RIVER GIRL SCOUT ASSOCIATION

The rebirth of Girl Scouting in Park River took place in the spring of 1978 with the formation of the Park River Girl Scout Association. Five women (Rita Collins, Linda Lee, Cathy Wagner, Maureen Swenseid, and Roberta Coleman) volunteered to bring the Girl Scout program to the girls of Park River with the assistance of staff members from the Pine to Prairie Girl Scout Council.

During the first three years, approximately 25-35 girls benefited from the program's emphasis on deepening self-awareness, relating to others, developing values, and contributing to society. These girls registered as Brownies (girls in grades 1-3) or Juniors (grades 4-6). The fourth year of the new program brought 46 girls and 9 adults into membership. Three new troops were organized that year-- one Brownie troop, one Junior troop and one Cadette troop (for girls in grades 7-9). In 1982, one additional Brownie troop was formed.

Highlights of the girls' activities during these five years include presentation of colors during the annual Memorial Day program and at sports tournaments; attending church together on Girl Scout Sunday; planning and serving a Father-Daughter banquet; presenting programs and making favors for residents of the Good Samaritan Center; making toy boxes for the church nurseries, the clinic, and the day care center; planning and preparing the food and decorations for a banquet in honor of International Thinking Day; making a quilt for the first girl baby born during Girl Scout Week; learning camping skills; and participating in many Council-sponsored events.

The adult volunteers feel that the Girl Scout program will continue to grow in Park River because the girls take part in planning the activities. The purpose of the program is to "inspire girls with the highest ideals of character, conduct, patriotism and service that they may become happy and resourceful citizens" (Pine-to-Prairie Girl Scout Council By-Laws revised April, 1983). Words spoken in 1912 by Juliette Low, founder of Girl Scouts of America, are still appropriate today-- "I've got something for the girls of...all America". Her dream was to have young people make the world a friendly, peaceful place. This dream is an integral part of the Park River Girl Scout Association.

PEO SISTERHOOD

Chapter Q of the P.E.O. Sisterhood was organized in Park River in 1928 through the efforts of Florence White Hutchinson, a former member of the sisterhood in LaMoure, N.D. The thirteen charter members were: Mrs. Fred Wilson, wife of an agriculture instructor at the Walsh County Agricultural School; Mrs. David Mills, wife of one of the partners in the Mills-Farup Ford garage; Mrs. D.D. Smith, a farmer's wife; Mrs. A.R. Meagher, whose husband was the Standard Oil agent; Mrs. Edgar White, a farmer's wife; Mary Robb Haugen Watson, who with her husband, operated the Variety Store and is now a resident of the Good Samaritan Center in Park River; Miss Elsie Catherwood, long-time city auditor; Mrs. Garfield Mauritson, wife of the cashier of the Farmers' Security Bank and later postmaster; Mrs. David Kinsala, whose husband was a partner in a Chevrolet garage and later an employee in the city power plant; Miss Alice Dahlen, a home economics teacher at WCAS; Mrs. James Robertson, wife of the Presbyterian minister and Mrs. Karl Farup, wife of the president of the First National Bank.

The first officers were Florence Hutchinson, president; Violet Wilson, vice-president; Vivian Meagher and Elsie Catherwood, secretaries; Ruth Mauritson, treasurer and Alice Dahlen, guard.

Since the beginning, chapter meetings have been held on the first and third Wednesdays of the month at the members' homes. Programs for each meeting, both educational and entertaining, are given by the members or occasionally by guests.

Chapter Q presently has 23 members. In its 55 years there have been 73 members, all residents of Park River and its surrounding area. Members who have served as state officers are Ruth Mauritson, state corresponding secretary in 1940, Dorothy



Front: Leona Walstad, Doris Burbidge, Linda Larson. **Middle row:** Edie Rygh, LeNae Askim, Elaine Cudmore, Phyllis Loftsgard, Alice Olson. **Back row:** Floris Ford, Eleanor Miller, Wanda Lewis, Sally Ostenrude, Eleanor Lewis, Gail Meberg, Eleanor Ford, Eileen Neste and Bonnie Sturlaugson. Resident members not pictured are Avis Ford, Beulah Hardy, Susan Houser, Laurie Larson, Mary Larson and Beryl White.

Kenney, state president in 1976, and Linda Larson, present state organizer.

P.E.O., an international organization for women, has four major projects supported by local chapters: Cotty College in Nevada, Mo., a junior college of liberal arts for women; the Educational Loan Fund from which women high school graduates may borrow for their advanced school expenses at a low rate of interest; the Continuing Education Fund which grants financial aid to mature women who need to resume their education, and the International Peace Scholarship which provides grants-in-aid to women foreign students who will finish their studies in the United States or Canada and return to their home countries to continue their careers.

Chapter Q also supports local educational endeavors such as the delegates to the International Music Camp and Girl's State, and city-wide projects such as the hospital drive, band uniform purchase and other events as they are needed.

The fund-raising activities for these projects began with the first rummage sales held in Park River which continued for more than 30 years. The most recent effort is the Annual Arts and Crafts Show and Sale begun in 1975.

RIVERSIDE REBEKAH LODGE No. 63

Riverside Rebekah Lodge No. 63 of Park River was granted a charter on January 20, 1909 by Grand Master, J.H. Cook and Assembly President, Nellie E. Bodle. Riverside Rebekah Lodge No. 63 was instituted on February 3, 1909, by Sister Minnie Barton, assisted by Sisters Hawkins and Redick of Maple Leaf Lodge No. 3 of Grand Forks.

Charter members were Mesdames Maggie McLean, Lizzie Kohnen, Emeline Robertson, Clara Hulbert, Harriet Lewis, Annie McPherson, Mary Gates, Bertha Metz, Maggie Wade, Mary E. Skala and Christine Smith. By the end of 1909, there were 39 members.

The Rebekah Lodges are an auxiliary of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows (IOOF) and in the beginning there was what was

known as the "closed door". In order to be a Rebekah, your husband, father, brother or son had to be an Odd Fellow. Also, the Rebekah Degree was the final degree for Odd Fellows, hence many men were also members of the Rebekah Lodges. Over the years, policy changes came about at the International level, and it was no longer necessary to be related to an Odd Fellow to be able to join the Rebekahs. Also, fewer Odd Fellows attained the Rebekah degree.

Odd Fellows and Rebekahs were dedicated to helping widows and orphans, etc. Odd Fellowship originated in England and was brought to America by Thomas J. Wilkey in the 1800's. Schuyler Colfax was the originator of the Rebekah Degree as an auxiliary for wives, mothers and daughters of Odd Fellows. Odd Fellows and Rebekahs are an International organization, with each state having its own Assembly and Grand Lodge, with districts within the states. Many states maintain their own retirement homes, with North Dakota's IOOF home being located in Devils Lake.

Other services, local and national, participated in by Odd Fellows and Rebekahs include the World Eye Bank, sponsoring Amblyopia screening, United Nations Youth Pilgrimage and a scholarship program on the national level. The International IOOF has had a float in the Rose Bowl Parade for many years and has won various awards.



PARK RIVER REBEKAH STAFF GOES TO CONVENTION

Staff officers of the Rebekah lodge of Park River are shown here as they exemplified the obligation ceremony at the international convention recently in Winnipeg. The ritual was written by Mrs. G.E. Hariman, who as president, presided at the week's sessions of the international organization. Members of the staff, reading from left to right, first row: Mrs. William Flint, Mrs. Charles Ramsey, Mrs. Alma Harris (captain), Mrs. C. Lien, Mrs. J.D. Robertson, Mrs. William Skjerven, Mrs. S.F. Gillespie; second row: Mrs. Joy Ratliff, Mrs. Mary Oaks, Mrs. Ben Middendorf, Mrs. Max Nolan, Mrs. Peter Pederson, Mrs. Floyd Greenwood, Mrs. Sophia Ross and Mrs. Sadie McEachern.

Riverside Rebekah Lodge No. 63 was well known among the lodges for its excellent drill team and in September 1947, the group traveled to Winnipeg to the International Convention, where they exemplified the obligation ceremony.

Alma (Mrs. Lloyd) Harris was a most illustrious member. She was appointed Outside Guardian of the North Dakota Rebekah Assembly in 1934 and advanced to Assembly President in 1939-40. In 1949, she composed and compiled the official Rebekah music book which is still used throughout all jurisdictions internationally.

Another dedicated Rebekah was Emeline Robertson, who served as Secretary of the local Lodge for over 25 years.

Riverside Rebekah Lodge No. 63 was very active in the community for over 50 years and at one time had over 70 members. Meetings were held the first and third Tuesdays of each month in the Odd Fellows Hall located on the second floor of the old bank building. When that building was razed in 1961, the members met in the homes of various members until, along with the Odd Fellows, a rural school building was purchased and moved to a lot just east of the Ford garage, and converted it into Lodge Hall.

Like many fraternal organizations, interest in being a member began to wane in the 1960's. Older members died and new ones were reluctant to join. In the fall of 1973, Riverside Rebekah Lodge No. 63 surrendered its charter to the Rebekah Assembly of North Dakota and closed its doors. Memberships were transferred to other lodges in the district, with three members electing to belong to the jurisdictional lodge at large.

RIVERSIDE SWINGERS SQUARE DANCE CLUB

In November of 1967, four couples from Park River who graduated from a square dance club in Adams published a news article in the Park River Press stating that square dance lessons would be taught weekly if enough couples were interested. Fifteen couples were interested and Frank Slama, Milton, N.D. gave the lessons. Twelve weekly lessons were given and fourteen couples graduated February 25th, 1968. Following graduation a club was organized. A Constitution and a set of By-Laws were written and club dues set at \$15 a year for each couple. The name given to the club was "The Riverside Swingers". At this time Frankie Slama was hired as Club Caller. Officers are elected each year. As each person graduates they are given a Riverside Swingers Badge with their name and address. These badges are worn to dances to identify themselves to other club dancers.

Dances are held twice a month for the winter months with special dances being held during the summer months. Some of our special dances are: July 4- dancing on float in parade and a street dance; dancing in front of Post Office when the Square Dance Stamp was issued; dancing at Good Samaritan Center; club picnic and many street dances for special occasions. Annual conventions attended are State Convention each April, callers convention every fall and the International Convention held in the States every other year.



Club callers: Frankie Slama and Edward Novak.

Frankie Slama continued to give lessons to the club for several years.

In January of 1977, Edward Novak was hired to give lessons and graduated his first class in April. In the fall of 1977 he started a second class and was hired as club caller. Edward has continued to have a graduating class every year and is an Honorary member of the Riverside Swingers.

Besides club callers there are always guest callers who travel as much as 200 miles to call a dance with dancers coming from area towns plus other states. October, 1980, a National caller, Cal Golden, from Arkansas, called a special dance with 15 squares dancing.

Following a dance which is usually two and a half hours of dancing, lunch is always served.

ST. ANSGAR'S HOSPITAL AUXILIARY

St. Ansgar's Hospital Auxiliary was organized in May of 1952. Its purpose was to help the hospital in any way it could through fund-raising projects and volunteer help. Instrumental in organizing the Auxiliary were Sister Lelia, Mrs. McCann Archer and Rev. W.R. Radliff. There were approximately 50 ladies present at this meeting and officers at this time were Mabel Dougherty, President; Mrs. Oscar Stromli, Mrs. Elmer Argetsinger, Mrs. Melvin Olson and Mrs. A.N. Flaten, Vice-Presidents; Mrs. Henry Green, Secretary and Mrs. Peder Pederson, Treasurer.

The group met on the second Friday of the month and dues were \$1.00 a year. The meeting date and dues remain the same today. Inactive as well as active members are welcome. The largest membership was attained in 1968 through the efforts of the late Mrs. Gustie Clemetson who conducted a one-man door-to-door membership campaign.



Sister Mary Helen, Sister Bernadine and Sister Pauline.

Mrs. Lloyd (Byrdie) Staven is the current President and has been elected to that office each year since 1969. Some of the past Presidents are Mrs. A.R. Meagher, Mrs. M.B. Overbye, Mrs. Leo Hennessey, Mrs. Grace Maier, Mrs. Leonard Hankey, Mrs. Bart Hankey, Mrs. Duncan Meagher, Mrs. Laurence Wilkes, Mrs. Herb Thiele and Mrs. Arnold Haas.



An Appreciation Luncheon for St. Ansgar's Hospital Auxiliary members was held Friday, April 30. Hospital Administrator Dennis Lambert presented each member with a special Hospital Auxiliary Membership Pin.

Honored members in attendance were, front row (L-R): Mary Suda, Beulah Hardy, Thelma Wick, Selma Bode and Ann Kelly. Second row: Mildred Torfin, Kay Higgins, Byrdie Staven, Dorothy Geston and Sylvia Wick.

Third row, standing: Luella Tibbitts, Jessie Hankey, Vera Fisher, Trudy Cicha, Amanda Parks, Barbara Bohacs, Helen Torkelson, Gertrude Wilson, Dorothy Stevens and Agnes Carlson. Back row: Irene Hankey, Lillian Kadlec, Angie Berger, Frances Geary, Blanche Houser, Mildred Smazik and Beatrice Jergenson.

The main fund-raising project of the Auxiliary is their Annual Christmas Bazaar. The first one was held in 1965 and grossed \$320. The 1982 Bazaar brought in over \$1200. Each April the group holds a Spring Sale which includes food, fancywork, plants, white elephants and lunch. The showcase at the hospital is always filled with hand-made articles, gift and stationery items and our famous dishtowels and stainless steel paring knives. These articles may be purchased at any time.

Some other fund-raising projects in the past have been a "Hospital Benefit Day", a traveling basket, ice cream socials, a bakeless bake sale- and for several years the Auxiliary served the Potato Queen Banquet with Georgia Hennessey as chairman.

Each year the Auxiliary sponsors an Open House Silver Tea on the first Sunday in May in connection with National Hospital Week.

Through the years, the Auxiliary has contributed many thousands of dollars worth of equipment and furnishings to the Hospital. Supplying linens was one of the earliest projects of the Auxiliary. The latest item purchased by the Auxiliary is an emergency room monitor defibrillator. Some of the numerous articles purchased with Auxiliary funds through the years have



Auxiliary officers are, front row, (L-R): Thelma Wick, Vice President; Trudy Cicha, secretary; and Sister Marcelline. Back row: Kay Higgins, treasurer; Byrdie Staven, president; and Dennis Lambert, hospital administrator.

been bed rails, rocking chairs for the nursery, wheelchairs, window shades, overhead lights, drapes, surgical cart, pictures, chairs, recovery cart, water distiller, furniture for the lobby, waiting room and office, library cart, toaster, high-low bed, carpeting for office and waiting room, five electric beds, tray favors on holidays, suction machine, educational films, rotating tourniquet, clinic instruments, surgical equipment, gifts for new mothers and sizeable contributions to the Hospital Fund Drive, the Good Samaritan Home and a Medical Scholarship.

The Hospital Auxiliary officers for 1983 are Byrdie Staven, President; Thelma Wick- Vice President; Trudy Cicha- Secretary and Kathryn Higgins, Treasurer.

Each meeting is opened with the Auxiliary Prayer which is as follows: "Almighty God and Heavenly Father of Mankind, bless we pray thee, our endeavors in this hospital, in which we strive to bring comfort and hope to all who are in distress of mind or body.

Guide us so that we may use the privilege given us to help the aged, the ill and the very young with generosity, with discretion and with gentleness.

Give us the strength to labor diligently, the courage to think and to speak with clarity and conviction but without prejudice or pride.

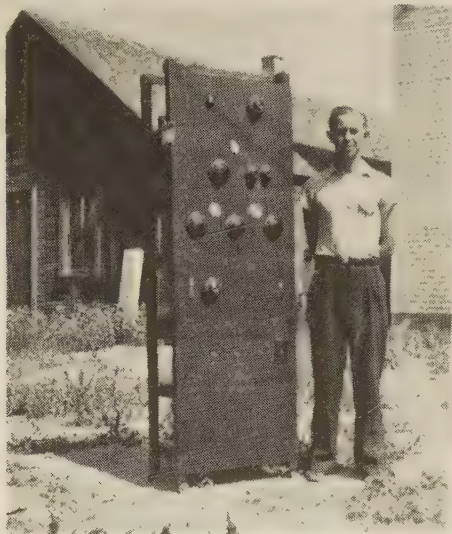
Grant us, we beseech thee, both wisdom and humility in directing our united efforts to do for others only as thou wouldst have us do. Amen."



ROY NESTE, HAM RADIO

PARK RIVER GETS A RADIO STATION

Yes. By a license from the Federal Communication Commission, a station permit was granted to Roy Neste of Park River. The call sign assigned was W9WFO. This was the culmination of many hours of experimenting and studying radio theory and practice, which started in high school, and continued while a student at UND. To obtain a station license and operators license you have to pass a written exam given by the FCC which includes the ability to send and receive international morse code. While at UND Roy was able to attend a code class which was promoted by the Electrical Engineering Department, and as soon as he had mastered that he took and passed his federal exam. The exam grants an Amateur Radio license to be used for experimenting and communication with other amateurs. These are also called "hams" but nobody knows quite why.

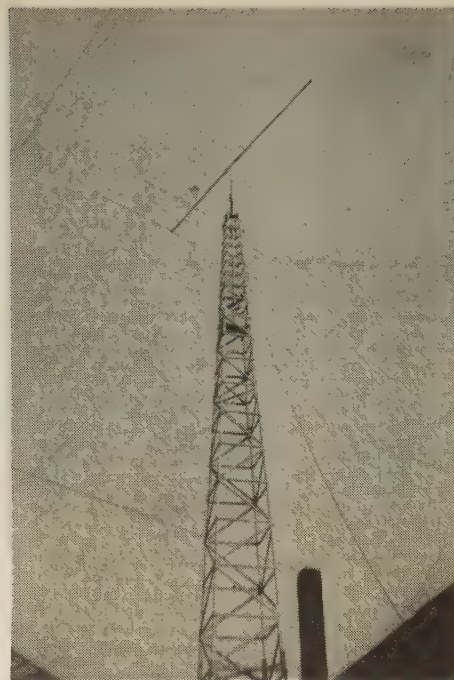


No. 1 - 1938

In the 1930's most amateurs designed and built their own receivers and transmitters by using parts from worn out old broadcast radios. In picture No. 1 you can see the homemade transmitter which was built. This one had a power of 60 watts and with a good antenna communication could be made with other amateurs all over the world, depending upon atmospheric conditions which can vary by the hour, day and seasons. Incidentally, the picture was taken behind the Windsor Hotel where he lived. Also, the dark building to the left is the building where he practiced law though that building was torn down and a new office built on the premises. In 1958 Roy received a letter of appreciation from the Great Northern Railway for giving them assistance during a bad ice storm which helped them to keep the train running.

Picture No. 2 shows the good antenna used for worldwide communication. The tower was homemade by Roy and was 54 feet tall and installed behind the hotel. Picture No. 3 shows the newer transmitter that he built after he returned from the war, and which was capable of using 400 watts.

During the winter of 1948-49, when there was a bad storm a crew from Ottertail Power Company was staying at the hotel but all telephone lines were down so Roy got in contact with another radio ham in Fergus Falls, Minn., and he contacted the Ottertail office and they were then able to send instructions via amateur radio to their crew in Park River and this was done for a number of days until telephone lines were available but the crew was able to get many distribution lines hooked up to give electrical power to the local areas around Walsh County. Amateur radio has



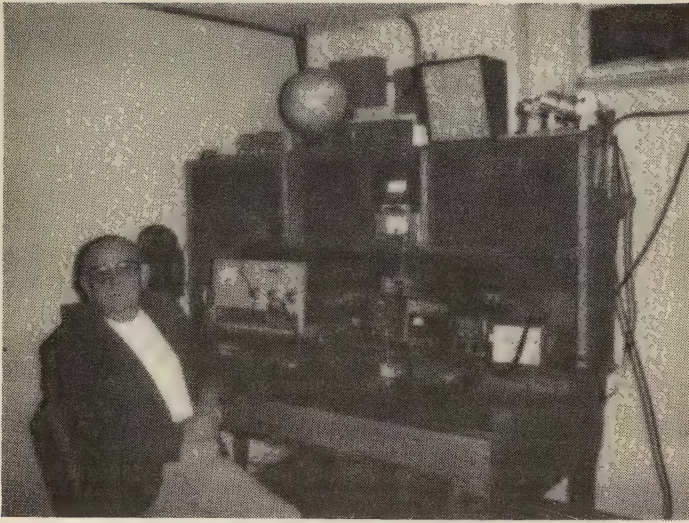
No. 2 - 1948



No. 3 - 1947

always been a big factor in the cases of common disasters around the world. In 1954 he received a letter of appreciation for assistance during an ice storm in South Dakota; and one for assistance in 1959 for a blizzard; and in 1961 from the office of the General in Thule, Greenland, for maintaining a phone patch with the Air Force there for 50 out of 52 weeks to enable Kenneth (Bing) Knutson to contact his wife, Monica, here in Park River.

While in Manila, in the Philippines, he was able to receive a license from the government there to operate a station and by using some military equipment he kept in contact statewide with amateurs all over the United States and around the world. While in the Air Force he was a Communications Officer and was a civilian radio instructor at the UND and a military instructor at Yale University and various military areas.



No. 4

Roy has been active in ham radio and is still active and his equipment has been built up to include a 1000 watt transmitter which is as powerful as some broadcast stations. See Picture No. 4. During the past five winters he has been in California, North Carolina, and Florida and has taken equipment with him and has been able to keep schedules with Clarence Madland, another radio ham who lives near Edinburg, to keep in touch of the news from good old Park River and to give instructions to Clarence and give messages back here.



Memories



PARK RIVER LADIES

Back row: Mrs. T.T. Thompson, Mrs. C. Finneseth, Mrs. Scidmore, Mrs. K.J. Farup, Mrs. Louis McPherson, Mrs. Robert Brett, Mrs. Jesse Robb, Mrs. J. McEachern, Mrs. John Bennington, Mrs. Sarah Ross.

Front row: Mrs. Robert Mills, Mrs. Sam Peoples, Mrs. Ole Gullickson, Mrs. Johanson, Mrs. Paul Falter, Mrs. Rude, Mrs. Lindell, Mrs. Annie Botsford, Mrs. Aaron Ramsey, Mrs. Ole Thorson.

3 T K ORCHESTRA

A part of the culture of Walsh County would have to be the many dances which the citizenry has enjoyed throughout the years--be they wedding dances, special celebrations, or scheduled weekly affairs, they had a big following. One group that had a large impact from 1918 into the 40's, was the 3 T-K Orchestra. A first-person recollection by Ella Hanson of Park River, who was a member of the organization, follows:

The 3 T-K Orchestra was organized in the Park River High School in 1918. It was first an outgrowth of the concert orchestra (which was an eight-piece group conducted by the school teacher, Miss Hillier). The members were Fritz Thorson, saxophone and clarinet; Paul Farup, trombone; Melvin Neste, trumpet; Kenneth Eaton, trumpet, Leland Taylor, violin; Ella Hanson, violin; Juel Thompson, drums and xylophone, and Lucille Spornitz, piano.

Of course there was no dance music played in that orchestra, so the boys got together and organized a four-piece dance band. They named it the 3 T-K after the initials of the last names of the original group who were Thompson, Thorson, Taylor and Koppang. However, the original group was short-lived as Leland Taylor graduated and left town; also leaving were Miss Koppang, who was a cousin of Fritz Thorson, and Juel (Sloppy) Thompson. Melvin (pea soup) Neste replaced Thompson on the drums; Kate Simmer was the new pianist, and one day, when I was a freshman in High School, Fritz Thorson dumped some music on my desk saying "You are going to play with us"- which I did for about 30 years.



Ella Hanson joined the High School Orchestra when she was in the 7th and 8th grades. From left to right, top row are: Lucille Spornitz, piano; Bud Farup, trombone; (killed in WWI); Kenneth Eaton, coronet; Melvin Neste, coronet; Miss Hillier, director; Juel Thompson, drums. Front: Fritz Thorson, clarinet and sax; Ella Hanson, first violin; and Steve Taylor, second violin.

We had a great time and became very well known throughout the state. I think we played in almost every town in Walsh

County, and ranged from Rugby to Warren, Minn., and from Grand Forks to Hannah, N.D.

In the early years we traveled by Model T and then Model A, and if we were lucky, one with side curtains. And when Fritz got a California top built on his car we felt real ritzy. Of course, a gravel road was unheard of, so we plowed through a lot of dirt and snow to get to where we were scheduled to play. On one

occasion it had snowed so heavy we couldn't get to Edinburg by car, so we hired a team of horses. Half way there, one of the horses died. Our driver walked to the farm house, borrowed a horse, and we were on our way again. We arrived cold, but ready to play. Another time, on the way home from a dance in Pisek, our radiator froze up, so we walked to a farm house and they very graciously let us in. We waited there until morning, when the school bus came by. It was an open sleigh pulled by horses. We were really cold and arrived in town just in time to go to school. Traveling at night in all kinds of weather, we had many hectic experiences, but of course there were no heaters in the cars and no weather reports to warn us.

Over the years there were many changes in the personnel. Kate Simmer was replaced by Ann Gergen. When Ann died, Disa Spornitz took over. Then Billy Spornitz joined us as a singer and trumpet player. We also added another trumpet man, Roy Neste, who was Melvin's brother. That made us a six-piece orchestra. In the 30s, a banjo was a must, so I played banjo as well as violin.

At one time our orchestra was offered a two-week engagement at the Roseland Dance Gardens in Winnipeg. But as we were all working, we couldn't accept that offer even if it would have been a big break for us. However, we played barn dances, pavilion dances, bowery dances, junior proms, and some fraternity engagements as our fame spread. There were many times we played seven nights a week (as the Happy Hollow Pavilion in Lankin had Sunday night dances).

The pay was poor, but we always felt as though we were being paid for having fun. It was just great. And then we played our last engagement in the Mandt Hall in 1945. But all of us fondly remember the countless friends we made over four decades.

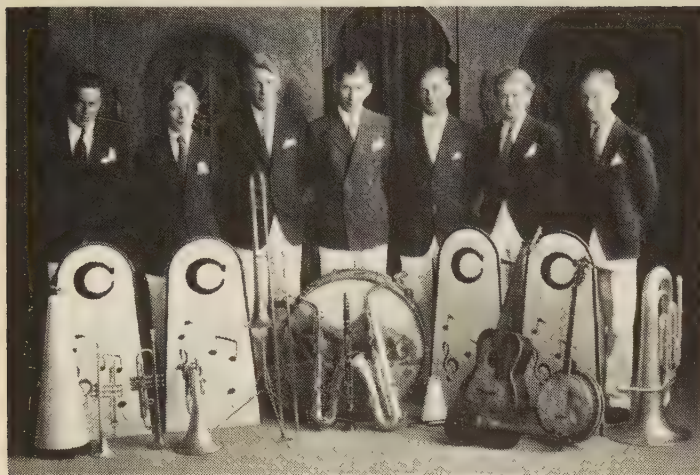
Submitted by Ella Hanson



Ella Hanson (June, 1979)



CLEMETSON ORCHESTRA



(L-R): Jack McLeod, Mrs. Lloyd (Byrdie Clemetson) Staven, Alden Clemetson, Gladwin Clemetson, Charlie Christenson, Neome (Clemetson) Larson Christenson, Lyle Clemetson

Alden Clemetson organized a dance band called Alden Clemetson and his Royal Knights, in the early thirties. The members of the orchestra were Alden, slidetrombone; Byrdie on

the piano; Neome played the banjo; Gladwin and Lyle on the drums; Charlie Christenson played clarinet and saxophone; Jack McLeod played the trumpet, Kenneth Hamilton played the saxophone; and Eddie Brodina in later years played trumpet.

We had a great time playing in many towns in Walsh County and all around. We played over the radio from Grand Forks, and Devils Lake many times. We played with a Medicine show for several months, and then with a road show for awhile.

One summer we rented a cottage from a doctor at Fosston, Minn., for a month at Long Lake, and played for dances at Twin Lakes several times, barn dances, pavilions, bowery dances and many towns, and for different other functions, and fourth of July celebrations. We made many trips to Minn., and played for dances and sometimes stayed for a few days at a time.

We traveled over many bad roads, and weather. Lost a few times but always got home, rather scary at times, in the winter.

Also had an old time dance band called "Hank and his Old Timers," Henry, our dad, Alden, Neome, Lyle, Byrdie and Ernie Berger. Played for many old time dances at the Odd Fellows Hall, for the Odd Fellows. The hall was upstairs over Dave Johnson's furniture store, and the bank. They danced all nite and had a good lunch for 25 cents.

We always enjoyed playing, and many times just getting home in time to get three or four hours of sleep before we went to work, and sometimes not that much. It was fun!

July 14, 1927

DEPOSITORS HERE TO GET BANK REFUND

PROOF OF CLAIM FOR DEPOSIT
HAS BEEN RECEIVED BY
ALL DEPOSITORS HERE

Notices have been received here this week by depositors of the closed Bank of Park River which stated that a dividend of ten per cent will be paid all the depositors of the institution upon the return of the proof claim.

These depositors are the only depositors of any closed bank in the county to receive dividend at this time and will be awarded by the Depositors Guaranty Fund commission at Bismarck.

This will make a total of 20 per cent of dividends so far recovered by local depositors as a 10 per cent dividend was declared this spring.

The claimants should use care in returning the claims to the commission. The application must be carefully filled out and signed before a notary public before mailed. Otherwise there will be delay in that the applications will be returned for further information.

Similar refunding is also being made in many other counties of the state. The total sum that will be remitted to local depositors will aggregate about \$35,000.

Trivia

.. September 8, 1938 - TRANSIENTS GET PRETTIED UP AT BEAUTY PARLOR

.. Four young men, transients here for the potato picking season, attracted some interest Friday when they marched boldly into the DeLuxe Beauty Shop, each demanding and receiving a permanent wave and parting, perhaps, with a major portion of their cash reserve. Two of the youth were from Alabama, one from Missouri and one from all points south, east and west. The boys certainly looked swell after Ella and Ruth (Ella Hanson and Ruth Knutson) got through working on their heads. Whether the permanent waves will help them pick more and better potatoes is a question on which there seems to be a division of opinion. The proprietors of the local beauty shop say that quite frequently during the fall season they have male customers requiring beauty aids. Seldom, however, do four male customers come in at the same time. Doubtless, lady customers whose appointments may be delayed by groups of men cluttering up beauty shops, may view such a trend with jaundiced gaze similar to that sometimes seen on faces of men in barber shops when ladies monopolize barber chairs. The age of heroism is not dead.

.. Gazette - 5-20-87 - John Ildstad drove from here to Grand Forks, a distance of 60 miles in six hours on Monday with a small pair of ponies and three in the buggy. It is evident that Mr. Ildstad has a good team. He reports the crops look better around Park River than anywhere on the road.

Family Histories

SENA ANDERSON

Sena Anderson was a daughter of Nils and Pauline Anderson, and lived in Vernon Township. Her parents came from Denmark. They had two children, a small child was lost at sea coming to America and that left them with an only child, Sena.

Sena was a member of Pleasant Valley Lutheran Church and was very active in the church and Ladies Aid. She was president of the Aid for many years, taught Sunday School and Vacation Bible School. She also attended a Bible School at the West Coast for a few years. She was always ready and willing to help anyone in need.

Sena passed away in June, 1978, and is buried in the Pleasant Valley Cemetary.

ELMER AND MARY ARGETSINGER

The Argetsingers came to Park River from Cass Lake, Minn., in 1938 when they purchased the Variety Store from Nels and Mary Haugen. They operated the store for 34 years and have continued to live in Park River after their retirement in 1971. Mr. Argetsinger died in January, 1982. Mrs. Argetsinger has continued to make her home here. They are parents of three children: a son, Quinten, who lives in Niles, Illinois. He is an executive with a Savings and Loan in Chicago. They are parents of five children.

Their daughter, Judy (Mrs. Duane Korynta), lives in Coon Rapids, Minn., and is employed by General Electric as a Customer Service Representative in the Lighting Business Group. They have four children and one grandchild.

A daughter, Donna (Mrs. Jeff Parkas), is a registered nurse and is employed at the Mercy Hospital in Coon Rapids. They are parents of two children.

DIANE LOUISE BARRIE (Mrs. Thomas Tallackson)

Diane Barrie Tallackson was born at Estevan, Canada and came to Park River in 1962 with her parents, Dr. and Mrs. (Corrine) Barrie. She graduated from W.C.A.S. and U.N.D. of Grand Forks with a B.A. degree. She married Thomas Keith Tallackson on September 1, 1973. They reside on a farm between Park River and Grafton. They are parents of three children, Trevor Dean, Sarah Jayne and Barry Tyler.

Dr. and Mrs. J.G. (Corrine) Barrie moved to Park River in 1962 from Estevan, Canada. Dr. Barrie practiced medicine in Park River for 17 years. They are the parents of three children, William Myron, Claude Gilman and Diane Louise.

Dr. Barrie was associated with Dr. Piltingsrud in the Park River Clinic. He served on the Board of St. Ansgar's Hospital and was active in training Ambulance attendants for the Park River Ambulance Service.

JOHN BENA

The following autobiography of John Bena was found in some personal papers and is submitted herewith as it was written by him.

My parents, Vaclav Bena and Barbara Vlcek, emigrated from Bohemia to the United States about 1870. I believe they had five children at that time: Joseph, Anna, Mary, Madlena and James. They came to Iowa and settled on a farm near Spillville, IA.



John Bena



Blanche Jarus Bena

On June 15, 1872, a daughter was born and on June 29, 1872, she was baptized Eleonora.

On March 22, 1874, a son was born and baptized Francis.

About 1881 my parents and family moved to North Dakota and lived with a family by the name of Votava about four miles southwest of Grafton through the winter. I was born on March 5, 1882.

The last three years my folks lived in Iowa, the chinch bugs destroyed the crops and when my folks moved to North Dakota they were in very poor financial circumstances.

In the spring of 1882 my father filed on a quarter of land two miles west and one mile south of Veseleyville. The family built a wooden shanty on the place and moved into it and here I was raised.

When I was old enough I went to school in Conway and lived with my sister Madlena (Mrs. John V. Sary), through the winter. In the summer I did farm work. I graduated from grade school and high school in Conway.

About 1901 I secured a job as clerk in a general store in Conway which was owned by Frank E. Vorachek who married my sister Mary. I worked there about five years.

In 1906 I went to Minneapolis and took a commercial course at the Minnesota School of Business. After graduating I worked for some time in Minneapolis.

In 1908 I came home and took a job as clerk in a general store owned by Nappen Brothers in Lankin. This I held for three years. When there was an opening for an assistant cashier in the First State Bank of Lankin, I secured this job and held it for seven years.

In 1917 I secured a job as deputy state bank examiner with headquarters at Minot, and afterwards in Lankin, which I held for five years.

On Sept. 26, 1917, I married Blanche Jarus in the Pisek Catholic Church.

In 1922 I secured a position as cashier of the Farmers Security Bank of Conway which I held for three years until the banks began to close all over the state due to the depression.

From then on I worked for Mills-Farup Co. as collector and solicitor. In December 1942, I went to San Francisco and worked in the Henry Kaiser shipyards at Richmond, Calif. I returned to Park River in 1946 and since that time have been a painter and decorator.

My wife and I had five girls: Irene Marion, born Oct. 9, 1925; Lorraine May, born April 30, 1929; Dorothy June, born Nov. 11, 1931; Kathryn Blanche, born Sept. 26, 1933; and JoAnne Erma, born April 29, 1937.

John Bena passed away June 30, 1966, at age 84.

Blanche Jarus Bena passed away June 24, 1963, at age 65.

submitted by Irene Bena Hankey.

BENNINGTON FAMILY



Florence Bylin Bennington



Albert Bennington

John Bennington came from England at age 9 as a stowaway. He went to Canada, then to Grand Forks. He worked on the first building ever built in Grand Forks. He later came to Walsh County and homesteaded. He built the first log cabin in that area.

He married Emma Thode. They had six children: Mabel, George, Norman, Grace, Albert and Mary. John Bennington was active in the Methodist Church. Mrs. Bennington was active in W.C.T.U.

Land that John Bennington homesteaded is still farmed by the Benningtons. Albert Bennington, son of John Bennington, Lee Bennington, son of Albert, and Mark Bennington, son of Lee.

John Bennington and Frank Harris had one of the first threshing rigs around Park River.

Albert Bennington married Florence Bylin. They had five children: Marie, Adeline, Florence Ruth, Jeanne and Lee Bennington.

CURTIS AND CORRINE BERG

Curtis and Corrine Berg were married on June 17, 1972 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Park River.

Curtis is the son of Ivan and Steinun (Byron) Berg. The oldest of nine children, Curtis was born on February 11, 1950 at Langdon, ND. The family moved to Park River in 1953. Curtis graduated from WCAS in 1968, and has been employed by Burbidge Farm since 1973. In July of 1981 Curtis and his brothers Duane and Keith took over the operation of Bowl-Mor Lanes.

Corrine was born on February 1, 1954, the youngest daughter of Clifford and Gwen (Ness) Askim who live near Lankin. Corrine was a member of the last graduating class of WCAS in 1972 and attended Aaker's Business College in Grand Forks in 1973. Since 1979 she has been working for First Bank Park River.



Jessica, Jennifer and Jerralyn Berg

Curtis and Corrine have three daughters. Jennifer Dawn was born on June 27, 1975, Jessica Kate was born on January 25, 1978, and Jerralyn Lea was born on October 3, 1980. The Bergs live just north of Park River and are members of Our Savior's Lutheran Church.

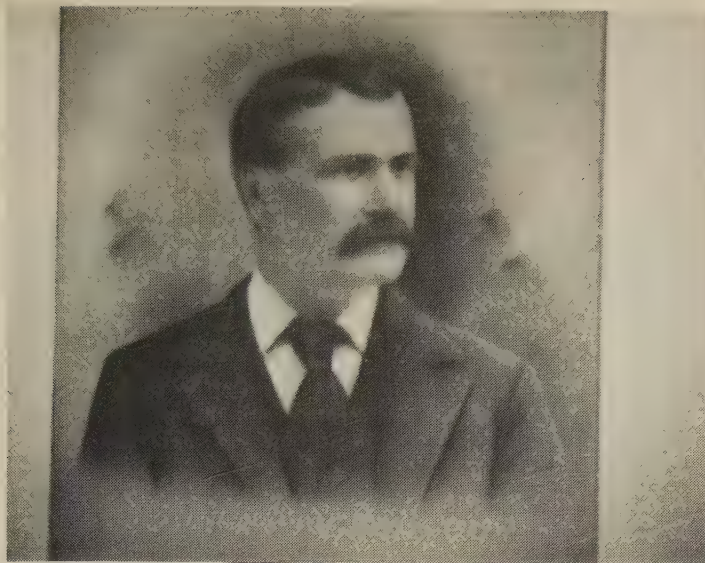
JACOB BIRDER-a pioneer in Walsh County

Jacob (Ptacnik) Birder was born June 2, 1858, in Czechoslovakia, the son of Matous and Anna Malacek Ptacnik. His mother, Anna Ptacnik, immigrated to America with her children: Matej, Marie, Anna, Katerina, Joseph and Jacob to Spillville, Iowa, in 1870, after the father died.

This part of Jacob Birder's history is taken from "Autobiography and Family History" by Frank J. Prochaska, a nephew.

"In the trek of the people to the new West frontiers was Jacob, mother's brother. He went to South Dakota and worked in a store in a town named Flandrau. While at Calmer, Iowa, he learned to speak English and also mastered Norwegian quite well. A natural linguist, when he was at Flandrau, he added to his accomplishment the Sioux Indian language.

An Indian reservation was located close to that town and after he learned to talk the Red Man's language his employer was favored with most of the trade from the reservation. Later when he had gone to Park River his store was always the headquarters for all the half breed Sioux who made trips down from Turtle Mountains every fall to work with threshing gangs.



Jacob Birder

At Calmer, he worked for a storekeeper named Olson and formed an acquaintance with two brothers, Peter and Andrew Sandager, also clerks in the place. A few years later, he formed a partnership with Peter Sandager and Olson and established a firm being known as "Birder, Sandager and Olson." He had general store at Grafton, N. Dak., the firm being known as "Birder, Sandager and Olson." He had anglicized his surname "Ptacnik" because of the difficulty of pronouncing by others than his own nationality. They prospered and soon branched out with a store at Minto and at Park River. When the firm dissolved, Jacob took over the Park River store and married a sister of Sandager. His wife died a few years afterward from a blood vessel rupture in the brain.

Later he married his bookkeeper, Minnie O'Reilly. With his second wife he had five children, but three died in infancy. Jacob Vivian and Cecil Edward Eugene attended various schools and finished their college studies at Notre Dame University, graduating from the law department. Cecil studied music in Ireland and was professor of music and speech at Notre Dame University for 20 years.

While on the way to St. Louis, as a delegate to the National Democratic Convention in 1904, Birder met his death when the special train, on which the delegates traveled from Chicago, was derailed at Litchfield, Ill. He was one of more than 20 killed in the accident which occurred on July 3 of that year.

He had sold his store in 1891 and then engaged in the business of selling land and loaning money. He was president of the bank in Park River. His estate was valued at \$198,000 and was left to the three surviving members of his family.

He made frequent short visits to our home where, later, our grandmother lived. He was very sociable and there was always a steady flow of wit and humor when he was around."

(Frank Prochaska was a former editor of the Walsh County Press (Gazeteer). The beautiful home that Mr. Birder built in 1889 still stands at the north end of Briggs Avenue in Park River and is owned by Mrs. Agnes Henderson.)

(This article is submitted by Andrew J. Novak who is a nephew of Jacob Birder and a cousin of Prochaska.)

THE GLENN BORG FAMILY



Glenn and Esther Borg

Glenn and Esther Borg and family lived in Park River for ten years, from 1942-1952, during which time they owned and operated Golden Valley Creamery. There are four children: Beverly, Dagne, David and Marcus.

Glenn Borg, eldest son of Swedish immigrants Martin and Ida Malmgren Borg, was born May 1, 1896, at Parkers Prairie, Minn. Following overseas duty from 1917-1919 during World War I (some of the action he saw was at Meuse-Argonne, Verdun and St. Mihiel). Glenn returned to farm with his parents at Parkers Prairie before deciding to go on to school. He graduated from Northwestern Business College in Fergus Falls, and a creamery management course at St. Paul. He later was to receive a number of trophies for his butter-making skills.

Glenn was a manager of the Dalton, Minn., Creamery when he met Esther Stortroen. Esther was the youngest child of Jens and Sirianna Hansel Stortroen, owners of the General Store at Dalton. They were second generation Norwegian immigrants who came to Minnesota via Wisconsin.

Esther was born March 30, 1904, at Dalton, Minn. She graduated in Business from Park Region College at Fergus Falls.

Esther and Glenn were married at Dalton on August 26, 1928. While still living at Dalton, they were active in church and community affairs. Glenn served as mayor of Dalton, president of the school board, Commander of the American Legion and superintendent of the Sunday School. Esther taught Sunday School for around twenty-five years and was active in ladies aid work and American Legion Auxiliary. All four of their children were born at Dalton.

In 1942 the family moved to Park River when Borgs bought the Creamery. They were active in Our Saviour's Lutheran Church where Glenn served as president of the congregation for several years.

In 1952 the family moved to the Fargo-Moorhead area where Glenn returned to work as a traveling salesman, a profession he had enjoyed during most of the 1930's before moving to Park River.

Glenn died on June 14, 1964, at Tyler, Minn., from strokes enroute to son Marc's wedding. Glenn is buried at Dalton, Minn.

Esther continued to live at Moorhead until 1980. She was employed at Concordia College and was active in Trinity Lutheran Church. In 1980 Esther moved to Grand Forks where she is presently living at 1711 22nd Ave. South. A sister, Elise Stortroen and Esther have lived together since 1965.

DAGNE ESTHER BORG Sp. Duane D. Olsen



Dagne (Borg) and Duane Olsen with their three children: Deanna and Douglas, Dick (in front)

Twins Dagne and David were born on March 19, 1933, at Dalton, Minn., with Dagne being older by 15 minutes. They were in the fourth grade when the family moved to Park River.

During Park River school days, Dagne was active in extra-curricular and church activities, holding offices in several of them. She was valedictorian of the 1947 class of Park River Grade School and salutatorian of the WCAS Class of 1951.

Dagne graduated in 1955 from the University of North Dakota with a B.S. degree in Education with English, German and Art her major and minor fields. She participated in UND band all four years. She was a member of Delta Zeta Sorority and several honoraries.

Dagne and Duane (D.D.) Olsen of Manvel were married on June 25, 1955, at United Lutheran Church in Grand Forks. They continue to live on and to farm the original Olsen homestead, six miles west of Manvel. They primarily raise small grains, sunflowers and pinto beans.

Dagne taught at Gilby and Midway High Schools the first few years they were married. She "retired" when their family arrived.

Dagne and D.D. have three children: Deanna, Douglas and Dick.

Deanna, 1975 State Potato Princess, graduated from UND in 1981 and is a nurse in the Neurological Intensive Care Unit at St. Luke's Hospital in Fargo.

Doug, a 1981 NDSU graduate, is an Electronics and Electrical Engineer. Following employment with Boeing Company in Seattle, he is now Avionics Systems Design Engineer with Northrup Aircraft in Los Angeles.

Dick, the youngest child, lives at home and is a Special Education Student in the Grand Forks School System.

Always active in church, school and community activities, the Olsens became very involved in the field of mental retardation when Dick was born with Down's Syndrome. Their endeavors have led to local, state and national involvement and honors in retardation during the 1970's and 1980's besides the community

betterment work in the 1960's when Manvel twice received national recognition. Dagne continues being a "professional volunteer."

Dagne was first elected State Representative from District 19 in 1980. She continues in the ND State Legislature where she serves on the Education and Social Services standing Committees.

Many people in the Park River area have also come to recognize Dagne's husband Duane. He is a member of the "Happy Norsemen" barbershop quartet which has performed a number of times in the area.

DAVID GLENN BORG Sp. Lois Fortin



Dave and Lois Borg



Jonathon and Darryl Borg

David Borg graduated from WCAS in 1951. He then attended UND for three years, interrupting his education to serve in the U.S. Army for two years.

Dave graduated in 1959 from UND in the College of Engineering with a double major in Mining Engineering and Geology.

While at UND, Dave met Lois Fortin of Thompson, a foreign language major in the College of Fine Arts. She also graduated in 1959 from UND.

Dave and Lois were married January 4, 1960, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Moorhead. They have lived out East-Delaware, Ohio and Pennsylvania- almost all the time since then. They have two sons: Darryl and Jonathan, both students at Kent State University.

Since graduation, Dave has been employed with Atlas Powder Co., manufacturer of industrial explosives. He presently is Director of Technical Marketing and is responsible for introduction of new products and application techniques. He travels extensively and has been to 48 states and Sweden. He has

had several papers published.

Lois is head accountant and vice president of a restaurant supplies corporation. Their present address is 833 South 24th Street, Allentown, Pennsylvania 18103

MARCUS JOEL BORG Sp. Leslie Lundborg



Marc Borg family

L-R: son Dane, Marc, daughter Julie, wife Leslie

Marcus Borg, born March 11, 1942, at Dalton, Minn., was six months old when the family moved to Park River. He was ten years old and in the fifth grade when the family left Park River.

Marc graduated with honors both from Moorhead High School in 1960 and Concordia College in 1964. He has received a number of scholarships.

He attended Union Theological Seminary in New York City for two years on a Rockefeller Scholarship. He also taught at Concordia before receiving a Rhodes Scholarship to attend Oxford University in England. He received his doctorate in theology there in 1972.

Marc and Merryl Stengl were married on June 13, 1964, in South Dakota. They had two children: Dane, born in 1966, and Julie, adopted while they lived in England. Their marriage ended in 1974.

Marc and Leslie Lundborg were married on June 13, 1977, at Rochester, Minn. A graduate of Concordia, Leslie received her Masters from Chicago school of Theology.

Besides Concordia, Marc has taught at South Dakota State, Carleton College at Northfield and at Corvallis where he has been since 1979. He is professor of religious studies there. Marc has traveled extensively, has had several books published and also spends considerable time "preaching." Leslie teaches part-time at Corvallis. Their address is 440 Northwest 13th Street, Corvallis, Oregon 97330

BEVERLY JOAN BORG Sp. Theodore Smiglewski

Beverly Joan Borg was born at Dalton, Minn., on January 15, 1930. Beverly was in the eighth grade when the family moved to Park River. She graduated from WCAS in 1947 and Concordia College in 1951. Beverly was a member of the Concordia Concert Choir; a highlight of that experience was singing in Carnegie Hall, New York City. Her degree was in Biology, English and Education.



Beverly (Borg) and Ted Smiglewski

Following graduation she taught junior and senior high school at Walker, Minn., where she met Theodore Smiglewski.

Bev and Ted were married July 21, 1956, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Moorhead. From 1958-1960 they lived in Chile where Ted was an engineer with the Anaconda Copper Mines. In 1962 they moved to Seattle where they have since lived. Ted is employed with the Washington State Highway Department.

Since moving to Seattle, Bev has taught primarily at the junior high level- English and Reading. She just completed a term as state president of Washington Organization for Reading Development, an affiliate of an international reading skills association. Much of her time currently is spent conducting symposiums for teachers.

Bev's address is 225 South 166 Street, Seattle, Washington 98148

BERNT BORGESON AND

ANNA BERNADINE PETERSON

Bernt Borgeson, born in 1849, came from the county of Lt. Allund, Sweden, to America in the early 1870's. He worked in Chicago, Ill., and in Wisconsin logging camps until coming to Dakota Territory in the early spring of 1880. He traveled from Grand Forks by boat to the landing east of Grafton, walked west to Nash where there was a Swedish settlement. All of the land there had been taken so he walked further west of where Golden Valley is and then south to what is now Vernon Township. When he arrived there the only other settlers were the Christiansens. He took land east of their claim, in Section 17 of Vernon Township, to homestead. The trees were so small at this time (1880) that he could see the Christiansen farm over the tops of the trees when he looked west.

Because of this scarcity of lumber, Bernt's first home was a cabin dug in the side of a river bank. Soon he had neighbors, as the Hyldens and Wambems arrived that summer. During these early pioneer days, Bernt walked to Grand Forks, bought a 100 pound sack of flour and wheelbarrow and pushed it back to the farm- a distance of about 60 miles each way. He had to wade

across the Forest River and carry the flour to keep it dry. The trip took about four days.

Anna Bernadine Peterson, born in 1857, in Malingsbo, Sweden, came to Dakota Territory in 1881. She homesteaded in Norton Township. There she met Bernt Borgeson and the two were married.

Both Bernt and Anna were active in church and school activities. He was one of the founders of the Pleasant Valley Church in 1880. He also donated an acre of land which the Ramsey Grove School stood on. Anna served as treasurer of this school district for a number of years. The Vernon Township Hall also stands on his land. There is a 100-year lease to the township for the land the hall stands on.

About 1900 the Borgesons built a large two-story house complete with electric lights from their own generating plant. This replaced earlier log and sod cabins. In 1906 they took a trip home to Sweden with their neighbors, the A.G. Bylins. When they came home, they were accompanied by Mrs. Borgeson's half-sister and her family, Mr. and Mrs. Per Sjoberg and children.

Two brothers of Bernt also settled in Walsh County. Andrew settled a mile west of Lankin in Norton Township, now known as the Joseph Machart farm. John Borgeson had settled in Latona Township. He burned to death trying to save his prize horses when his barn burned. Bernt also had a cousin, Carl Liedberg, who came to North Dakota in the early 1900's. He worked with the horses helping build the railroads in the area. In later years he lived with the Borgesons.

Bernt and Anna had eight children: Ellen (Sept. 10, 1883- July 18, 1885); Emil (1885-1955), married Ella Liddle and had six children- Melvin died in infancy, twins Mildred and Edna, Bedah, Maurice and Raymond; Anna (July 18, 1887- June 26, 1943), never married; Elmer (Sept. 17, 1888- Jan., 1934) married Netta Nyseth and has seven children: Ernest, Arthur, Mabel, Margaret, Ellen, Esther and Marvin; Oscar (1890-1946), never married; Bedah (Jan. 17, 1893- Nov., 1976), married Arthur Anderson and had four children: Marion, Chester, Roy and Lyle; Henry (Aug. 22, 1895- Feb. 6, 1935), married Allene Thompson and had four children: Vernon, Donald, Beverly and Dick; Bennie (May 12, 1900- Mar. 5, 1954), married Margaret Miller and had three boys: Warren, Wesley and Ralph.

ELMER AND NETTA NYSETH BORGESON

Elmer Borgeson was born June 17, 1888, in Vernon Township to Bernt and Anna Borgeson. He spent all his life on the farm close to where he grew up. In March, 1914, he married Netta Nyseth, who had worked as a hired girl for his parents when she first came from Norway.

Netta was born April 1, 1891, in Redalen, Biri, Norway. She was baptised in Biri Church, Sogn, Norway. Her father's name was Stenor Nilson and her mother's maiden name was Bergene. After renting a farm for a number of years, Nilson had a chance to buy the farm Nyseth. As the farms there are named, the family name changed to Nyseth after they moved. There were nine children in the Nyseth family. Another daughter, Inga, also came to this country. She married Fred Borchgrevink and they farmed near Adams for many years.

Netta came from Gjovik, Norway in 1909. She came on a large, new ship at that time, the Adriatic. It took ten days and the trip cost her \$75 to Adams. An uncle at Adams had lent her the money.

Elmer had been a member of the Ramsey Grove School Board and was secretary of Pleasant Valley Lutheran Church at the time of his death in January, 1934, at the age of 45. Elmer and Netta Borgeson had seven children.

Ernest, born April 14, 1915, married Beulah Machart, having one daughter, Nancy, and now living in Grand Forks; Arthur, born August, 1916, married Eunice Vigen, had seven children and farms near Fairdale; Mabel, born 1918, married David Parker whom she met while a nurse in the Aleutians in World War II, had seven children and lives in Clarks Summit, Pa.; Margaret, born 1920, single and lives in Portland, Ore.; Ellen, born 1922, married Lawrence McLaughlin, had five children and lives in Portland, Ore.; Esther, born 1926, married Emil Svir, has two children and lives in Battleground, Wash.; Marvin, born 1931, married Marilyn McLean, had a daughter. Marvin married Pauline Bowles after Marilyn's death and has three more children. He lives in Richland, Wash.

Netta had lived in Adams since 1964 and moved to the Edmore Nursing Home for the winter months, moving back to her home for the summer months. She passed away June 13, 1982, and is buried at Pleasant Valley Lutheran Cemetery. Her family includes 26 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren.

EMIL V. BORGESON



Emil and Ella Borgeson

Emil Victor Borgeson was born July 9, 1885, the oldest son of Swedish-born pioneer parents, Bernt and Anna Borgeson. He lived his entire life in Vernon Township within a several mile radius of other family members.

Ellen Jane Liddle was born on Dec. 8, 1883. Her parents, John and Jane Liddle, were also pioneer settlers coming to the community called Pleasant Valley in Vernon Township in 1881. Their farm was situated only a few miles east of where the Borgeson family lived.

The first homes of these pioneer families were usually a two-room log or sod shanty until they had farmed and saved to build their frame houses, many of which are still used today. The two families grew to adulthood in this beautiful, productive valley attending Ramsey Grove Grade School and either the Ramsey Grove Presbyterian Church or Pleasant Valley Lutheran Church which were the two churches organized in the 1880's.

In 1903-1904, Emil Borgeson attended North Dakota Agricultural College in Fargo. In 1907 he purchased his farm land one mile south of his father's farm from Mr. Zoller. Mr. Borgeson and Ellen Jane Liddle were married March 27, 1912. Their wedding took place at the John Liddle farm home. As youngsters I recall my mother telling us of her pretty wedding and of her honeymoon consisting of riding the few miles between her

father's farm and her husband's home in a bright, shiny new buggy.

Emil Borgeson was active in community life, serving as County Commissioner from the 4th District for eight years, 1925 to 1933. He was clerk of Vernon Township and of Ramsey Grove School District for many years. He was a member of the Park River Masonic Lodge and a member of the Pleasant Valley Lutheran Church.

Ella Borgeson was an early member of the Ramsey Grove Presbyterian Church transferring her membership to the Pleasant Valley Lutheran Church upon her marriage. She was granted a life membership to the Pleasant Valley Lutheran Women's group of that church. Both Mr. and Mrs. Borgeson were affiliated with the Republican Party.

Their family consists of six children, four are deceased. Melvin Howard died in infancy. Raymond John Bernt, born Sept. 21, 1919, died March 8, 1972. He married Ida Charon of Park River in 1942, she died in 1946. In 1948 he married Joyce Carriveau of Thief River Falls, Minn. She lives at their farm home in Vernon Township. Maurice LaVern was born Aug. 1, 1922, and died April 7, 1966. He married Vera Phair of Park River in 1943. His widow married Edwin Hjelvik on Oct. 20, 1979, and they live at Adams. Marian Edna was born Sept. 18, 1914, she died Feb. 7, 1976. In 1940 she married John McLeod of Grafton which was terminated by divorce. She lived in California for number of years before her marriage on Nov. 19, 1966 to Merritt L. Welch of Grand Forks. Two daughters survive, Bayda Elizabeth (Mrs. Lewis I. Lowe) of Vista, Calif., and Mildred Ellen (Mrs. R.H. Johnson) of Sun City, Ariz.

My recollections of those early years of farm life are of how strenuous they were for our parents. Much hard work from early morning until long after sunset. Crops to be planted and nurtured through a three-month growing season by horse drawn machinery. Many weather problems to cope with. House work, gardening, canning and cooking for large families and hired help. Depression days during the 1920's and 1930's with dust storms and little money. World Wars and sorrow came into the lives of all. Not always easy, but the joys of our childhood days cannot be excelled. The fine values we observed in these good people of the Red River Valley Community, their respect for each other, their faith in God, their desire for education and quiet belief in government and patriotism, along with frugal ways of living and pleasures, passed on to them by their forebears is a legacy we must carry on to future generations.

Emil died June 17, 1955. His wife, Ella, died on June 23, 1960, in Drayton, ND. Their burial place is in the Pleasant Valley Lutheran Church Cemetery. To this date their family has expanded to include fifteen grandchildren and thirty-five great-grandchildren.

ERNEST BORGESON AND BEULAH MACHART

I, Ernest Borgeson, was born April 14, 1915 in my grandfather's house in Vernon Township and grew up on the farm next door. Our neighbors across the road were the Jacobsens. They also had a large family so as children we had a lot of good times playing back and forth. In 1925, when I was ten, I fell out of a haystack and landed on frozen ground, breaking my leg. I was in the hospital in Grafton for six weeks and the total cost was \$98. Another time, as a preschooler I had gotten something imbedded in my eye. My mother and I had to take the train from Lankin to Grand Forks to see a doctor that time.

I was confirmed in 1929 at Pleasant Valley Church by Rev. Strandjord. I graduated from eighth grade at Ramsey Grove School and later in the early 1930's took some winter short courses at the WCAS in Park River. We lived in dorms there and paid \$5 a week for room and board.

There were tough times in the 1930's but we managed. We had our own livestock and always had some crop. In 1935, I bought my first new car—a 1935 Ford V-8, 2-door sedan for \$500.

When our father died in 1934, my brother, Art, and I took over the farming. For three years we rented land from Sena Anderson and then in 1937 I bought my own farm in Vernon Township and we moved down there. When World War II started Art went into the Army and I stayed on the farm as head of the family. Marvin was only ten years old, but we had good neighbors who worked together and all got our farming done. Our mother also helped with the chores.

We farmed mostly with horses until 1941, and then when Art went into the service we switched entirely to tractors. Machinery was hard to come by during the war, but in 1943, I got my first combine and that helped with the harvest.

The winter of 1944-45, Elmer Winther and I went out to Clearfield, Utah, and worked in the naval supply depot, the largest inland supply depot in the world at that time. We were paid 88 cents an hour with time and half on Saturdays. We worked a 48-hour week. We returned home in February.

Later, I hauled cattle to the West Fargo stockyards for the farmers for a few years until they could get trucks of their own.

Beulah Machart and I were married March 14, 1951, in Trinity Lutheran Church, Crookston, Minn. Beulah was born Aug. 17, 1930, in Norton Township to Joseph C. and Laura (Vettleson) Machart. Joseph was born in 1898 and died in 1970. Laura was born in 1899 and still lives in Lankin. Beulah has two brothers — Louis and Norman, and four sisters — Lorraine, Gloria, Joyce and Ethel.

We lived on the farm from 1951 until Oct., 1958. Our only child, Nancy, was born Aug. 21, 1952. She started school in Vernon Township and then after we moved to Grand Forks, she attended grade school, high school and college there, graduating from U.N.D. in 1973. She married Marlan Hvinden of Maddock, N. Dak., on July 1, 1972. They have two children, Brian, born Sept. 9, 1974, and Angela, born Oct. 30, 1976. They live in Garrison, N. Dak., where Marlan is editor of the McLean County Independent.

In Grand Forks, I drove bulk truck for Farmers Union for a time and summers, continued to farm, until finally quitting and renting out my land in 1967. From then until 1974, I was a custodian with the Grand Forks Public Schools.

I was on the Board of Directors of the Federal Land Bank for 17 years, a director of the Lankin Farmers Union Elevator for 12 years and of the Lankin Telephone Co. before it merged with Polar. I was also a Deacon at Pleasant Valley Church.

Beulah and I still live in Grand Forks and I'm now retired. We are members here of St. Mark's Lutheran Church.

MAURICE BORGESON FAMILY

Maurice Borgeson, born August 1, 1922, was the son of Emil and Ella Borgeson, rural Park River, Vernon Township. He spent his entire life in farming. He attended Ramsey Grove School.

Maurice had two brothers, Melvin and Raymond, and three sisters, twins - Mildred and Edna, and Bayda.

Maurice married Vera Phair, daughter of John Burton and



Maurice Borgeson family
bottom row: Vera, Elizabeth, Ronald, Maurice
top row: Janice, Terril, Bonnie

Mildred Phair, rural Park River on December 7, 1942. They had five children - Terril married Elsie Kouba, and they have three children: Darryl, Rachel and Sarah; Janie married John Capp, and they have five children: Connie, Brian, Sharon, Anthony and Bradley; Bonnie married Dan DuBois and they have four children: Kim, Lisa, Michael and Chris; Ronald married Deborah Kram and they have three children: Karrie, Jamie and Kris; and Elizabeth married Ronald Dvorak and they have three children: Tami, Darren and Kevin.

In 1948 they moved to the original Borgeson homestead, where their son, Terril, is now living and farming.

Maurice was a member of the Pleasant Valley Church and Odd Fellows Lodge. Both Maurice and Vera were very active in 4-H leadership work.

Maurice passed away April 7, 1966 and is buried in the Pleasant Valley Lutheran Cemetery.

On October 20, 1979, Vera married Edwin Hjelvik of rural Adams.

Terril Lee Borgeson was born August 18, 1945 at Grafton, North Dakota, the oldest son of Maurice and Vera (Phair) Borgeson. When he was three years of age, the family moved to the original Borgeson homestead which had been homesteaded by his great-grandfather, Bernt Borgeson.

Terril completed elementary school at Vernon District 53 and graduated from the Walsh County Agricultural School in 1963. While growing up he was active in 4-H, was a member of the Twin Valley Farmers Club. In high school he was active in Future Farmers of America. After high school, Terril worked with his father on the farm. He also spent one winter in Minneapolis employed at Rosemont Engineering. He served in the North Dakota National Guard from 1963 to 1967. After the death of his father in April, 1966, Terril assumed the responsibility of the family farm and has been farming ever since.

Elizabeth Marie Kouba was born April 20, 1947 at Grafton, North Dakota, the fourth of six children of Joseph S. and Anna (Jarolimek) Kouba of rural Pisek. She grew up on the family farm and completed her elementary education at Prairie Centre District 6 and graduated from Pisek High School in 1965, after which she completed a secretarial finishing course at Aaker's Business College in 1966. She was employed as a typist at Implement Dealer's Mutual Insurance Co. in Grand Forks for several months and then began working at the Employment Service in Grafton, where she was employed as a receptionist-secretary for three years before their marriage.

Terril and Elsie were married on October 25, 1969. Darryl Lee was born on May 12, 1971; Rachel Elizabeth was born on November 12, 1975; and Sarah Elizabeth was born on March 20, 1982. Darryl and Rachel attend school at Park River.

Terril and Elsie have been farming since their marriage and are the fourth generation of Borgesons to be farming the family farm. They raise wheat, barley, sunflowers and rye.

The family are members of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in Park River. Terril is vice-president of the congregation and has served on the Board of Trustees, Elsie has taught Vacation Bible School, and Darryl and Rachel attend Sunday School and have been members of the junior and children's choirs.

THE TERRIL BORGESON FAMILY



L. to R: Elsie, Sarah, Terril, Rachel and Darryl

ALEXANDER MITCHELL BRUCE

Alexander M. Bruce was born in Forforshire, Scotland, August 22, 1842. He came to Harriston, Ontario, at the age of 13. He, with his family, emigrated to Canada. He was the youngest of 11 children, his parents being David and Mary Mitchell of Scotland. He married Flora Gillespie at Harriston, Ontario. Their oldest daughter, Rachel, died at age 5. Mr. and Mrs. Bruce came to Dakota territory in 1878, to Fisher, Minnesota (known as Fisher's Landing at the time.) This was the end of the railway, then. They came by ox-cart to Walsh County, Fertile Township. They filed a homestead on the Park River. Their farm is now owned by Amos Flaten. Four children, Alexander, John, Mary and David came with them. Later, two sons, Archie and Fredrick, were born to them in North Dakota. They also raised a grandson, Gordon Bruce, a son of John Bruce. A country school, No. 118, was built across the road from Alexander and William Bruce, a brother of Alexanders', and was known as the Bruce School. Since then, this has been moved to the Amos Flaten farm.

In 1889, Mr. and Mrs. Bruce and son Fred, moved to Grafton, N.D. Several years later, they moved to Park River and were here until time of their death.

Both were members of the Presbyterian Church and M. Bruce served as an elder for many years.

Mr. Bruce lived to be 93 and Mrs. Bruce, 84.

One granddaughter, Mrs. M.O. Johnson, lives in Park River.

FELIX AND CLARA(PENAS) BUDISH



Felix and Clara Budish family

Felix Budish was born in Minto, N. Dak., November 20, 1916. He was the son of Frank and Mary (Kowalski) Budish. Felix has two brothers- Anton of Park River, N.Dak., and Casmer, now deceased, who lived at Hurdsfield, N. Dak. His sister Verna is also deceased. She was the wife of Edward Florek of St. Cloud, Minn.

Clara's parents are Jay T. Penas, now deceased, and Mary (Schufletowski) Penas. Her family consisted of six brothers--Dan and Glenn of Park River, Phillip of Fargo, N. Dak., Clinton of Portland, Oregon, and Clark of Atlas AFB, Oklahoma. One brother, Lawrence is deceased. His family resides in Carrington, N. Dak. Clara's three sisters are Vera (Mrs. Jack) Johnson of Billings, Mont., Jennifer (Mrs. Arthur P.) Morris of Jamestown, N. Dak., and Carrie (Mrs. Harlan) Larson of Lompac, California.

Felix and Clara were married in St. Mary's Church, Park River, N. Dak., on November 11, 1939. They lived in the Park River area all of their life except for one year during World War II. That year they spent in Vancouver, Washington. Felix worked at the Vancouver ship yards and Clara worked in a nursery.

For years Felix had the Budish Construction Company, working in and around the Park River vicinity. Clara, who has always had an interest in nursing, has worked at St. Ansgar's Hospital for several years, and now works at the Good Samaritan Nursing Home in Park River, part time.

Both Clara and Felix have strong interests in arts and crafts. Relatives and friends have benefitted from their hobbies by

receiving as gifts personally made decoupage, ceramics, quilts, rugs, etc.

The Budish family consisted of three boys. The oldest, Don Lee, born September 18, 1941, was killed in an automobile accident on January 25, 1962, near Wahpeton, N. Dak. He was attending the North Dakota School of Science at Wahpeton at the time.

The second son, Lawrence Allen, was born January 21, 1943. Larry, as most people call him, graduated with a B.S. Degree in Education from Mayville Teachers College in Mayville, N. Dak. He received his Masters Degree in Education from the University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, N. Dak. He married Nancy Meagher, daughter of Duncan and Virginia (Baumgartner) Meagher on August 6, 1967, in the Federated Church, Park River, N. Dak. Nancy Meagher Budish also received her B.S. Degree in Education from Mayville Teachers College, and later completed her Masters Degree in Education at NDSU in Fargo, N. Dak.

The Lawrence Budishes have two children--Bradley Allan, born November 24, 1972, and Stephanie Ann, born April 29, 1975. Lawrence and Nancy both teach in the Fargo School System.

The youngest son, Gary James, was born January 15, 1949. Gary attended Mayville Teachers College, Mayville, N. Dak., and Brown's Institute of Technology at Minneapolis, Minn. Gary married Shelley Kirsch of Sturgis, South Dakota, on June 12, 1975, in St. Mary's Church in Park River. Gary and Shelley have a son, Derek James, born April 18, 1976. They have lived and worked in the Park River area, and at present both are working in Grafton, N. Dak.

EVERETT AND ANGELINE BURGER



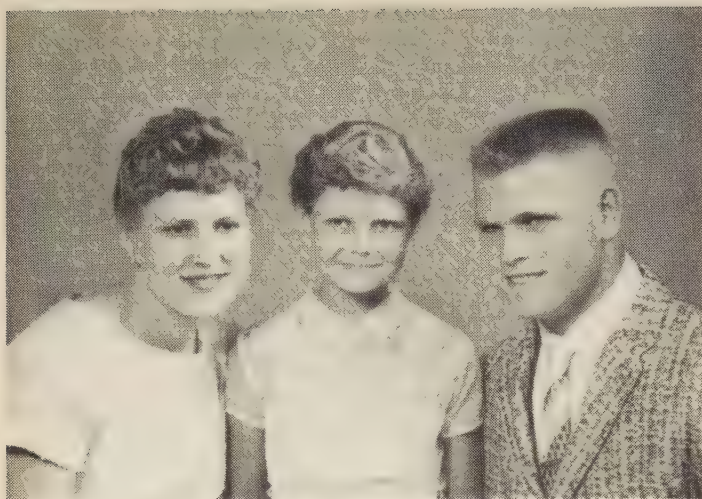
Everett and Angeline Burger

Everett Burger was born to George and Clara (Hartje) Burger of Hensel, North Dakota.

Angeline was born to Joseph and Elenora (Vesely) Cicha of Veseleyville, North Dakota.

They were married November 4, 1941 at St. Mary's Catholic Church of Park River, N.D. They moved to Park River and are still living in that vicinity. Both are active members of St. Mary's Catholic Church of Park River and Angeline is also a member of St. Mary's Altar Society and Christian Mothers.

Everett and Angeline worked as custodians in the Park River School District for many years, until their retirement.



Lenora, Monica, and Ron Burger

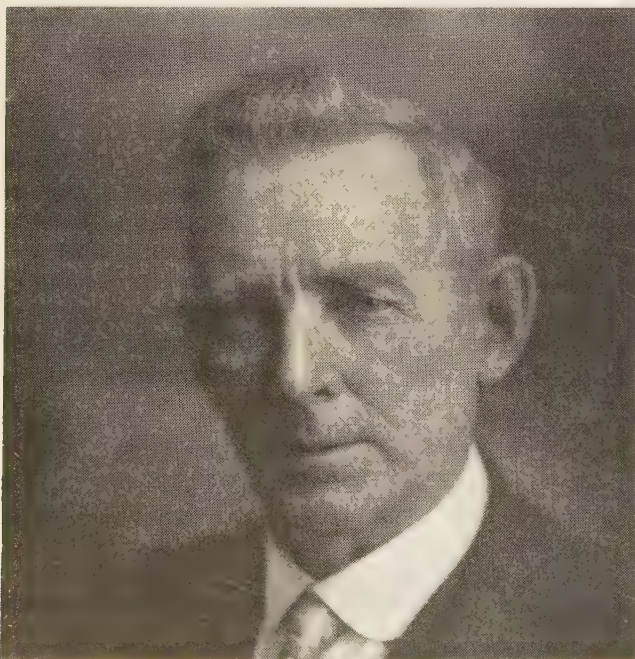
The Burgers have three children; Ronald, Lenora and Monica.

Ron married Janel Noeske of Oriska, North Dakota. They are making their home in Des Moines, Washington, where he is teaching and coaching at Highline High School and Janel is a school bus driver. They have two daughters, Sara 14 and Leah, 12.

Lenora married Wallace Swartz of Lankin, North Dakota and presently, they are making their home in Seattle, Washington, where she works as a title clerk for Evergreen Car, Co. and Wally is a mechanic for the Boeing Co. They have two children, Kristie, 17 and Brian, 14.

Monica is married to Duane (Duke) Halverson of Park River. They are making their home in Auburn, Washington, where she works as an assistant buyer for the Boeing Co. and Duane is also a mechanic for the Boeing Co. They have two daughters, Jamie Lynn, 2½ years and Lisa Marie, born in 1983.

STEPHEN ALEXANDER CAMERON



Stephen A. Cameron



Back row (L-R): Ethel, Mabel and Edna. Middle row (L-R): Stephen A. (father), Lloyd and Esther Emma (mother). In front: Loreen.

Stephen Alexander Cameron was born at Owen Sound, Ont., Canada, on January 10, 1860. He received his early education there, served apprenticeship as a blacksmith before coming to the Dakota Territory in 1881, via Fisher's Landing. He did blacksmithing at Kensington and , then, when the railroad was built he moved his blacksmith shop to Park River. Mr. Cameron came to Dakota with his mother, Mrs. McClellan who had married again after the death of his father, his sisters, Sarah Ann (McEachern) and Charlotte (Kisner), and his brothers, William and James.

Mr. Cameron married Esther Emma Widdes at Park River in 1883. She was born at Cartwright, Ont., and came to Dakota Territory at the same time as Mr. Cameron. Esther Emma Widdes came with her parents, William and Catherine Widdes, her brother, Robert, and sisters, Margaret and Jennie. The Camerons had five children: Mabel Claire (Mrs. William A Young), Ethel Mae (Mrs. Frank A. Cameron), Edna Pearl (Mrs. Howard N. Newman), Lloyd Widdes Cameron and Margaret Loreen Cameron. All were born and raised in Park River.

Mr. Cameron was a lifelong member of the Methodist Church, held the offices of trustee, Sunday School Superintendent and Bible Class teacher for 21 years. He served Park River as alderman and was elected mayor of Park River for two terms. He was a life member of Golden Valley Lodge No. 26 (Masonic), and charter member of the Park River Odd Fellows Lodge. He did blacksmithing in Park River until 1917, when owing to the poor health of himself and his wife, they moved to California. They returned to Park River in 1919. Mrs. Cameron died in August 1919. Mr. Cameron lived with his daughter, Mabel (Young), until he died March 8, 1939.

The December 8, 1910, issue of the Park River Republican has the following news item: "Park River has three blacksmith shops. T.A. Catherwood, S.A. Cameron and Knute Wick, each owned a blacksmith shop equipped with engine, trip hammer, band saws and everything necessary to do first class blacksmithing and plow work." (I remember as a child that Karl J. Farup used to tell us that "The Village Blacksmith" was written for Grandpa Cameron - that Grandpa could always "look the whole world in the face and owe not any man.")

ED CARLEN FAMILY

Edwin Carlen, known as Ed, moved to Park River in about 1928, from Minot, North Dakota. Ed worked at the Walsh County Press for Harry and Rosamond O'Brien for some 15 years- going through many ups and downs in the old printing shop, from a drafty, hard-to-heat building to a fire. Moving to the new building was heaven. His wife, Myrtle, was known for her singing at every occasion and every funeral for miles around. She was also noted for her cooking.

The Carlens had three children. Myhron, in the class of '33, went on to school at the University of Missoula, Montana, graduating in Pharmacy. He married, and finally had a drug store in California. They had one daughter.

Nadine married Duane Chapman, also from Park River. His father was well known as a business man and also in insurance. Duane flew the Hump (China, Burma, India theater) and lived in Missoula for 20 years. After Duane's death, Nadine moved to Dallas, Oregon. They have two children, Trudy, who's husband is also a pharmacist, lives in Dallas and Gary, who is in the Navy. He and his wife reside in San Diego, Calif.

Grace married Jewel Roningen. They now live in Fargo, North Dakota, and Jewel is General Manager and President of the West Fargo Stock Yards. They have one son, Bruce, who is married and lives in Green Bay, Wisconsin. Bruce is a Vet and has his own Hospital.

ELSIE JEAN CATHERWOOD



Elsie Jean Catherwood.

Park River's first full time City Auditor retired in July 1963. Elsie Jean Catherwood, who served as City Auditor for 24 years, served five mayors: Fred Hultstrand, Duncan Meagher, M.O. Johnson, Harold Dougherty and Percy Walstad.

In the early years, Miss Catherwood recalls that the city had no projects such as they have recently had and what they are planning for in the future. Before the City Auditor had an office, the people paid their light bills at the First State Bank. In addition to the regular duties of collection of the bills, bookkeeping, etc., the Auditor is expected to attend all regular and special meetings of the City Council and keep an accurate record of the proceedings. The office also handles rental of the City Hall for the wide variety of functions held there.

During her early years Miss Catherwood also served as clerk for the School Board. She thought this was fairly simple as they only had eight teachers at the grade school at that time.

Elsie Jean Catherwood was a native of Park River. She received her education in the city schools and completed a business course at Aaker's in Grand Forks. She worked in Eaton's store in Winnipeg and held positions in British Columbia and Seattle before returning to Park River. She worked at the

Farmers Security Bank when she returned to Park River and when it merged with the First State Bank she transferred there.

Elsie was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Catherwood. Her father was a blacksmith. She had one sister, Beth, and one brother, Thomas Hector.

Elsie Catherwood was a lifelong member of the St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Park River. She was active in Mary C. Chapter of Eastern Star and P.E.O. Sisterhood as a Charter Member of Chapter Q. She died in September of 1979.

JOSEPH CICHA FAMILY



Mr and Mrs. Joseph Cicha 50th Wedding Anniversary - Oct. 1960.

Joseph Cicha was born August 29, 1880, in Tabor, Czechoslovakia. He came to the United States with his family when he was two years old. In later years he would smile when he would tell us on his birthday that he "was only two when he crossed that Big Slough"- meaning the Atlantic Ocean. Eleanor Vesely Cicha was born June 9, 1888, in Ceske Budejovise, Czechoslovakia, and came to the United States when she was sixteen years old.



Joseph Cicha family, front (L-R): Emmanuel, Sylvester, Joseph, Eleanor, Helen, Victor
back (L-R): Georgia, Martha, Stanley, Jerome, Joseph, Angeline, Bert

Joseph and Eleanor were married October 11, 1910, in Pisek and farmed in the Pisek area. They later moved east of Park River where their children attended Rushford School.

Joe worked for various farmers and for the WPA for a time during the Depression. In the winter months he walked seven miles to work. Joe was also an expert dynamiter and his services were much in demand for blasting big rocks to clear the fields in this area. Joe also helped to dig a lot of the wells in this part of the country.

Joseph and Eleanor had eleven children. They are Martha (Dahl), Helen (Listopad), Angeline (Burger), Georgia (Hennessey), Stanley, Joseph Jr., Jerome, Bert, Sylvester, Emmanuel and Victor. Victor died in 1947 after being injured in a hunting mishap. Helen died in a car accident in 1969.

Mrs. Eleanor Cicha lives in Park River with her sons Stanley and Joseph and celebrated her 95th birthday June 9, 1983. Her husband died in 1966.

JEROME CICHA FAMILY



Mr and Mrs. Jerome Cicha
Oct. 30, 1946.



Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Cicha
35th Wedding Anniversary - 1981

Jerome Cicha, son of Joseph and Eleanor Vesely Cicha was born near Conway, N.D., on June 6, 1922. Jerry has three sisters and five brothers. They are Martha Dahl, Georgia Hennessey, Angeline Burger, Joseph, Stanley, Sylvester, Bert and Emmanuel. A sister, Helen, and a brother, Victor are deceased.

Trudy Herda Cicha was born March 11, 1928, at Lankin, the daughter of Albert and Mary McDonald Herda. Trudy has four brothers and five sisters. They are Edward, Matthew, James, Peter, Frances Vasicek, Marian Anderson, Betty Ulberg, Rosalie Wissbrod and Joan Babinski. Two brothers, Albert and M. Paul, are deceased.

Jerry and Trudy met in June 1945 while Jerry was home on leave from the Army Air Force. He had been stationed in England with the 8th Army Air Force and served as nose gunner on a B24 Bomber. Jerry was scheduled to transfer to the Pacific War Theater but the war ended on V.J. Day that August and he was discharged in October, 1945.

Jerry and Trudy were married October 30, 1946, in St. Joseph's Catholic Church at Lankin. They lived for a time in Grafton, moving to Park River in 1947 where they have resided since. Jerry has been employed for the past 25 years as a Substation Construction Maintenance Foreman for Minnkota Power Cooperative in Grand Forks.

The Cicha family are active members of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Park River. Jerry is an active member of the Paul Farup American Legion Post and Trudy is an active member of St. Mary's Altar Society and St. Ansgar's Hospital Auxiliary.

Jerry and Trudy are the parents of eleven children, five sons and six daughters. A twelfth child, a daughter, died shortly after birth in 1950. David Victor was born November 10, 1947. He graduated from UND at Grand Forks and resides in Kansas City,



Jerome Cicha Family May 1983

1st Row (L-R): Trudy Cicha, Rosemary and Mark Veum, Jerry Cicha, Aimee and Jessica Flaten

2nd Row (L-R): Julie Thompson, Vicky Mountain, Jared Mountain, Helen, Bernadette and Philip Efron, Teresa Flaten holding Denise, Glenn Flaten

3rd Row (L-R): Brian Thompson holding Nicholas, Jerry Jr., David, Gregory, Michael, Joseph

Mo., where he is with Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Company. Victoria Jane was born October 29, 1951. She has lived in Minneapolis, Minn., since 1971 and has one son, Jared Mountain, who is 13 years old. Vicky is employed part-time by the University of Minnesota Art Department and is also a musical entertainer specializing in Jazz and Blues.

Teresa Ann was born July 27, 1954, and married Glenn Flaten in May 1973. They reside in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, where Glenn is an engineer for Collins Avionics and Terri works part-time at Sears. They have three daughters: Jessica, 6; Aimee, 5; and Denise, 6 months. Bernadette Geralyn was born May 31, 1956. In May 1980 she married Philip Efron in Minneapolis where they continue to reside. Bernadette is employed as a Word Processor for the University of Minnesota and Phil is Vice President of Innocast Corporation.

Jerome Gerard was born July 5, 1957, and lives in Fargo where he is employed by Northern Alfalfa Pellet Company. Julianne Gerarda was born March 15, 1959. She married Brian Thompson on October 27, 1979, and they have one son, Nicholas, age 2. Julie is a Teller-Savings Counselor at Gate City Federal Savings and Loan in Park River and Brian is a pilot for Valley Sprayers.

Rosemary Gerette was born September 18, 1960, and married Mark Veum May 28, 1983. They reside in Park River where Rosie is a Teller at First Bank and Mark is employed by the Alexander House. Joseph Gerard was born February 5, 1962, and is attending UND at Grand Forks where he will major in Meteorology. Gregory John was born August 17, 1963. He is currently attending UND and is a member of the North Dakota National Guard.

Helen Margaret was born February 12, 1964. She graduated from Park River High School in May 1983 and is enrolled at NDSU at Fargo for the 1983-84 school year. Michael Zachary was born March 22, 1967, and attends Park River High School where he will be a junior in the fall of 1983.

The Cichas are very proud to claim Park River as their "Hometown."

RICHARD D. AND LEONE CLARENS



L-R: Leone, Diann and Dick

Dick and Leone Clarens moved to Park River in August, 1966, when Dick became principal at the Walsh County Agricultural School. They purchased the "O'Toole house" and have lived there ever since. The Clarens family came here from Wahpeton. Dick was originally from Alice, N.D., and Leone (Metcalf) from Valley City. They have three children.

Richard Jr. (Rick) (Class of 72), is a Pharm D. and is a clinical pharmacist at the Family Practice Center in Fargo. Rick is married to Ruth Christopherson, daughter of Leonard and Betty Christopherson of Edinburg, and they have two children, Christine and Rachell.

Mary (Class of 74) lives in Fargo and works at St. Luke's Hospital as a staffing clerk and is also a student at NDSU.

Diann is a member of the Senior Class of 1984 at Park River High School. She is a cheerleader and twirler and represented North Dakota in 1982 at the Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership Seminar. She works part-time at the Park River Dental Office.

Dick is principal of Park River Senior and Junior High and Leone is a secretary for Stephen L. Currie of Dahl, Greenagel, Currie, Geiger and Petersen. They are members of St. Mary's Catholic Church. Dick is a member of the American Legion (Past Commander of the Post) and Knights of Columbus. Leone is a member of Decca, Monday night bridge and Legion Auxiliary.

HENRY AND GUSTIE CLEMETSON

Gustie (Peterson) Clemetson was born to John and Bergette Peterson Sept. 18, 1884. The Peterson's were married at Lake Park, Minn., in 1883. John was from Sweden, and Bergette was from Norway. They lived at Lake Park for awhile, then went to a place west of what is now Fosston, Minn. They settled there awhile and dug a cellar with a roof over it and there is where I was born. Sometime later they homesteaded on 80 acres of land one mile west of Fosston, built a one-room log house with an upstairs, and then finally added a kitchen. We lived there for many years. The other children were born there. I had five brothers and one sister Alma, who passed away when she was 2 ½ years old, and Arthur, who died at eight months, Louie, Elmer, Bennie and Arthur.



Henry and Gustie Clemetson



Henry Clemetson family

(L-R): Gladwin, Lyle, Alden, Clair, Byrdie, Neome, Henry, Gustie, Avis

My parents had a team of horses, cows, a couple of sheep and chickens. My Mother would bring eggs at seven cents a dozen, butter at ten cents a pound, to town to sell, and wheat was 40 cents a bushel. When she had all the groceries bought, the store would always put in a good sized bag of mixed candy for nothing and that had to last till the next time she went shopping.

Dad would go many miles into the woods and bring home loads of wood. Mother would send a few pairs of mittens and stockings, and scarves with him to sell, made from the wool that she carded and spun.

I didn't get to go to school very much. When I was ten years old, I went to work for 50 cents a week. I went two terms to school in Fosston and worked for my room and board. I got as far as sixth grade. When I wasn't working, my Mother had a nice big garden and she would bunch up carrots, beets, onions, and different other vegetables and put in a couple water pails for me to take to Fosston and sell, house to house, at five cents a bunch. She would walk half way there with me to help carry the pails as they were heavy. I would go at different times and sell it all.

My parents moved to Mallard Lake, Minn., where they owned and operated a hotel for many years.

On November 3, 1906, Henry Clemetson and I were married at Mallard Lake, Minn., by Rev. Bode. Henry was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Nels Clemetson of Dundee Township (Hoople, N.D.). He was born at Nearstrand, Minn.

His mother and father were both born in Norway. Mother came to America in 1867, and father in 1853. They were married at Valley Grove, Minn., April 16, 1871. They sold their farm at Nearstrand in 1879, started out in a covered wagon and oxen and reached Dundee Township June 9, 1879, got land and settled there, 5½ miles southwest of Hoople. They lived there till they retired and moved to Park River. They had 8 children. The whole family have passed away.

Henry and Gustie Clemetson moved to Park River after they were married. Henry worked for Sam Holland for many years, he had a garage here. In 1917 they moved into the building where Mrs. Cowger has her office and started a bakery and the Star Restaurant. They owned and operated that till 1923, when they moved into the UCT Hotel which was next door to the restaurant. We operated and also served meals for many years. Henry had a threshing machine, and threshed for many farmers. He also worked for the city for many years.

They had seven children. They are: Mrs. Lloyd (Byrdie) Staven of Park River, Alden Clemetson of Silverton, Oregon, Mrs. Selvin (Avis) Dahlen of Portland, Oregon, Mrs. Charlie (Neom) Christenson of Salem, Oregon, Gladwin, Lyle and Clair who have passed away.

Gladwin was born in Park River, went to high school and later went to Los Angeles, lived and worked there. He passed away Nov. 1, 1962 at Los Angeles, Calif. He was married and they had no family.

Lyle was born in Park River, went to the WCAS. Was in the Army and was in the Aleutian Islands. When he got out of the service he worked in Park River. Never married. He passed away August 19, 1968.

Clair was born in Park River, graduated from WCAS. He was in the Navy. He passed away Sept. 23, 1971.

Gustie belonged to the American Legion Auxiliary, St. Ansgar's Hospital Auxiliary, and she was very active in selling poppies on Poppy Day. The family belonged to Our Saviour's Lutheran Church. Gustie passed away April 28, 1968. Henry passed away July 28, 1941.

ALDEN CLEMETSON

Alden was born in Park River, graduated from WCAS, and went to Interstate Business College and N.D.A.C. at Fargo. He organized the Clemetson Dance Band. Members were Byrdie, Neom, Gladwin, Lyle and Alden Clemetson, and Charlie Christenson, Kenneth Hamilton, Gordon McLeod, and Ed Brodina.

They broadcast over Grand Forks, and Devils Lake radio stations. They also had an old time dance band called "Hank and His Old Timers." Members were Henry, Alden, Lyle, Neom, Byrdie Clemetson and Ernie Berger.

Alden and Josephine Christenson were married Oct. 13, 1940, at Wolford, N. D. and moved to Silverton, Ore., Nov., 1941.

She was a music teacher and active in the Lutheran Church in Wolford. They adopted two children, John, on March 31, 1953, at the age of seven months; and Mary Jo, on Aug. 19, 1961, at the age of five days.



Mr. and Mrs. Alden Clemetson, Mary Jo and John

John works for Frito-Lay Potato Chips in Salem, Ore. He has two adopted children, Seena and Murray. He and his wife, Toi, have a little girl, Emily Ann, 2 years old.

Mary Jo went to Oregon College and is employed in a fabric shop in Salem, Ore. She married Greg Moll of Salem, July 24, 1983.

Alden has been a member of the Salem-Aires and the Barbershop Chorus at Salem for 21 years. The groups travel up and down the west coast. They have sung at San Antonio, Texas; appeared in the Universal Studio movie short, "Keep America Singing." He has been a member of Silverton Barbershop Quartette for 15 years, and now sings in a grandfathers quartette. His hobbies are camping and golfing. He has been in the retail oil and gasoline business in Silverton and Woodburn, Ore., for 35 years.

Jo's hobbies are golfing, camping and singing. They are members of the Trinity Lutheran Church and sing in the choir.

NEOM(CLEMETSON) CHRISTENSON

I was born in Park River in the building where Dr. Cowger has her office. My parents had a bakery and the Star Restaurant there. I graduated from WCAS. Then I worked in the cafe for Annie and Chike O'Brien for several years, then married Hubert Larson, son of Ben and Hannah Larson of Park River. We lived here for a few years, then moved to Portland, Ore. where Hubert worked for the telephone company. We had three sons--Harlan, who was born in Park River; Jimmie and Dayton, born in Portland. After a number of years out there we moved back to Park River and bought the cafe from Bob and Oppie Oppeboen. We ran the Larson Cafe in that building until I bought the building across the street from Agnes and Baldy Falter in April of '68. We remodeled the whole inside, and we lived upstairs. I retired in 1976.

Dayton, my youngest son, and his wife Audrey took over the cafe, and built on a large banquet room onto the back. They have two sons, Ryan, 4; and Garrett, 3.

Harlan and Carrie live in Lompoc, Calif. and both teach there. Jimmie lives in Lompoc, Calif., and he works for MX missile. His wife Joann teaches school. They have two girls: Jaime, 7, and Marla, 4.



Neome (Clemetson) and Hubert Larson, sons Dayton, James and Harlan.



Neome and Charlie Christenson

August of 1980 I moved to Salem, Ore. and later married Charlie Christenson of Salem, Both are retired and live in Salem, but sure miss good old Park River.

I am one of the daughters of Gustie and Henry Clemetson. Charlie is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Christenson of Silverton, Ore. I am a member of the American Legion Auxiliary, St. Ansgar's Hospital Auxiliary and Our Saviour's Lutheran Church of Park River.

submitted by Neome Christenson.

THE CLAIR CLEMETSON FAMILY

If ever a man lived that a child would be proud to call "Dad," it was the late Clair Clemetson of Park River. Clair was born the son of Henry and Gustie Clemetson of Park River on December 11, 1922. In the 49 years that he lived, Clair did about as much for his country, his family and community as anyone could humanly ask.



Clair Clemetson family (L-R): Rodger, Thomas, Suzanne Joanne, Selma and Clair (Rick); Clair, seated

Clair lived his entire lifetime in Park River with the exception of two years in the Navy during World War II. It was a life that was scarred with pain and suffering as well as triumphs and happiness. During the two years that Clair was in the Navy, he saw a ship shot out from under him and spent months of agony while recovering in a hospital bed in the Phillipines. It was also

for seven years of this life that he battled cancer. He offered himself as a living laboratory for doctors to help find a cure for cancer. But Clair vowed to fight the dreaded disease until death finally ended his pain on September 23, 1971.

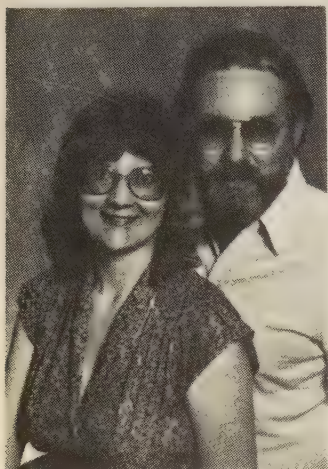
Clair's life was one of giving to others. It was one that earned him a special medal from the President of the United States, when he jumped into a raging river in Park River to save the life of a 12-year-old Fairdale boy, who is alive today because of Clair. He was also one dedicated to organizational efforts with the Ambulance Service and hours of school and training in first aid. He dedicated his time to the Fire Department as a former president and to the American Legion as a former commander. He was a member of the Disabled American Veterans, the Eagles Lodge and Our Saviour's Lutheran Church.

Clair married Anselma Sobolik, daughter of Adolph and Rose Sobolik of Veseleyville on August 12, 1947. Selma was a graduate of Pisek High School and also served in the U.S. Navy during WW II working in Washington, D.C.

After their marriage, Clair owned and operated a gravel business. On July 1, 1963, he and Selma purchased the Club Bar in Park River from his sister and her husband, Lloyd and Byrdie Staven. He sold his gravel business to Donald Dusek and operated The Club until his health would no longer allow it. Selma then took over the operation and is still running the bar today under sole ownership.

Clair and Selma had five children: Mrs. Ron (Suzanne) Hall of Fresno, Calif.; Mrs. Lanny (Joanne) Peterson of Park River; and Clair (Rick) of Park River; Tom of San Simeon, Calif.; and Rodger of San Louis Obispo, Calif.

SUZANNE CLEMETSON HALL



Ron and Suzanne (Clemetson) Hall



Megan Hall

Suzanne was born to Anselma (Sobolik) Clemetson and Clair Junior Clemetson on Nov. 13, 1949. She was educated at the Park River Elementary and High Schools and graduated as valedictorian in 1963. While attending WCAS, Suzanne was active in GAA, band, chorus, FHA and was a member of the National Honor Society. She graduated as an honor student in 1967.

After graduation Suzanne attended the Medical Institute of Minnesota in Minneapolis. She studied laboratory technology and X-ray and graduated as salutatorian of her class. Her first job included an internship at Platte County Memorial Hospital in Wheatland, Wyo.

Suzanne moved to Grand Forks in the fall of 1969 and began work at the Deaconess Hospital as a lab technician. In the summer of 1971 she toured Europe, after which she worked as a barmaid at the Club Bar in Park River before joining the U.S. Navy in October. During her 3½ years in the Navy, Suzanne's job duties varied considerably. While stationed at the Naval Regional Medical Center in San Diego, Calif., she started as a lab technician and was later appointed Master at Arms (supervisor) for the Wave Barracks. Following three months of hospitalization, Suzanne ended her tour of duty as a secretary to a base civilian.

In the fall of 1975, Suzanne moved to Fresno, Calif., where she attended Fresno City College. She graduated in 1976 with a 4.0 average and an Associate of Art Degree in Liberal Arts. While continuing her education at California State University in Fresno, Suzanne worked at a local ceramic shop and for the I.R.S. She was active in several clubs: E.A.T., A.H.E.A. and Phi U, participated in the craft committee for Vintage Days and was named one of the Outstanding Young Women in America for 1978. She graduated in 1978 with a Bachelor's Degree in Home Economics with a 4.0 average.

Following graduation, Suzanne decided to become a registered dietician and subsequently began work on her master's degree in nutrition. During this time she worked at the United States Health Center in Parlier, Calif., as a nutritionist and later at the Fresno Indian Health Center as a Community Food and Nutrition Program coordinator.

While working at F.I.H.C., Suzanne completed her Master's Degree which included writing and producing a 45 minute slide-tape program on Fresno County Indian Nutrition, health and lifestyle. The program is presently being used to educate the local Indian population and other low income groups.

On May 17, 1980, Suzanne became the wife of William Ronald Hall of Fullerton, Calif. Ron was born and educated in Hanford, Calif. He spent two years at the College of the Sequoias in Visalia pursuing a liberal arts degree before moving to southern California. Ron worked in the Los Angeles area for 15 years as a sales and service partsman for various automobile dealerships prior to moving to Fresno.

Suzanne and Ron are the parents of one daughter, Megan Suzanne, born on June 16, 1982. Ron is presently employed as a journeyman partsman at Mark Cadillac. The Halls reside at 336 E. Alluvial No. 74, Fresno, Calif.

JOANNE CLEMETSON PETERSON



Joanne and Lanny Peterson



Natalie and Nathan Peterson

Joanne Clemetson Peterson was born the second daughter of Selma (Sobolik) and the late Clair Clemetson of Park River on October 6, 1950. She attended both elementary and high school in Park River, graduating as an honor student in 1968.

After graduation, Joanne attended Mayville State College where she obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree in Secondary Education. While attending MSC, Joanne was a member of the Student Senate, a candidate to Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges, and member of Alpha Phi Sigma, a national honorary scholastic fraternity. She graduated in 1971, Cum Laude, with a major in English and a minor in French.

Joanne spent her first three years of teaching in Lankin, where she taught both English and French. Her fourth year was spent teaching junior high English in Cavalier.

During the two years following, Joanne was the manager of the new Alexander House Lounge and then bartended for her mother at The Club Bar in Park River.

In the fall of 1978, Joanne returned to teaching when she accepted the English position in the Adams Public School System.

On June 2, 1979, Joanne married Lannes (Lanny) Peterson from Langdon, son of Mr. and Mrs. Stewart Peterson. Lanny was a graduate of the Langdon School system, spent two years in the U.S. Army and then worked in the construction business in Langdon. He also played lead guitar with several bands around the area.

The Petersons reside in Park River with their two children: Natalie Lynn, born June 17, 1981; and Nathan Allan, born a Valentine's baby on February 14, 1983. Lanny is self-employed in the construction business and Joanne is still teaching English and French in Adams.

CLAIR AND LORELEI CLEMETSON



Clair Clemetson family (L-R): Lorie, Clair "Rick", Bobbie, Carly, Brian

Clair Richard "Rick" Clemetson was born on December 11, 1952 to Clair and Anselma Clemetson of Park River, North Dakota. He grew up and attended the Park River Elementary School and graduated from WCAS in 1970. He attended NDSSS at Wahpeton for one year.

Rick married Lorelei "Lorie" Eklund on September, 18, 1971. Lorie is the daughter of Robert and Dorothy Eklund of Park River. The Clemetsons have three children: Roberta Lea born December 8, 1970, Carly Ann born May 31, 1976 and Brian Michael born October 21, 1981.

Rick is employed as a construction worker for Ron Dahl Construction of Park River. He has been so employed since his marriage in 1971 except for a brief time when Rick served in the U.S. Army from August, 1972 to May, 1974. Rick was one of the last draftees of this time period. He did his boot camp training at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri and then transferred to Fort Bragg, North Carolina for the remainder of his service.

Lorie is presently employed by First Bank Park River as a secretary. She was previously employed as a legal secretary with Hodny, Burke, Rice & Stevenson of Grafton, N.D. from May, 1981 to October 31, 1983 and Ringsak, Webb, Rice & Metelmann Law Firm of Grafton, N.D. from October, 1971 to May, 1981 when that law firm merged with the Hodny firm.

TOM CLEMETSON

Tom Clemetson was born the second son of Selma (Sobolik) and the late Clair Clemetson of Park River on May 28, 1957. He attended both elementary and secondary school in Park River graduating in 1975.

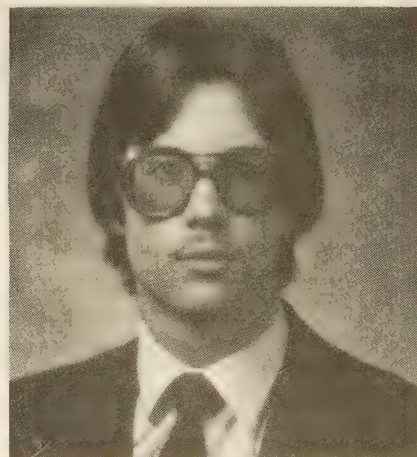
Since his graduation, Tom has had many different job experiences in which he has learned several trades. He worked for the Midgarden Farms in many capacities both during high school and after graduation. Tom then became employed by Jack Sobolik in the carpet laying business, after which he learned the bartending trade working for his mother at The Club bar in Park River.



Mr. and Mrs. Tom Clemetson

On May 1, 1982, Tom married Patricia DeLeon of Park River, daughter of Pat and Stella DeLeon. In November of that year, the couple moved near San Simeon, California, where they are both employed at Ragged Point Inn, a resort surrounded by ocean and mountains.

RODGER CLEMETSON



Rodger Clemetson

Rodger Clemetson, the third son of Selma (Sobolik) and the late Clair Clemetson of Park River, was born on December 11, 1961, the same day that both his Dad and older brother were born. He attended both elementary and high school in Park River graduating in 1980.

After graduation, Rodger attended the Missouri Institute of Technology in Kansas City, Missouri. In October of 1982, he graduated as an electronics technician. Rodger is now residing in San Louis Obispo, California where he is employed at CEA in his field of training.

THE REV. HENRY PEYTON COOPER



Rev. H.P. Cooper family - 1936

seated: Rev. H.P. Cooper, Margaret, Harry
standing: Floy, Wanda, Dorothy, Laura, Ruth

The Rev. H.P. Cooper wrote the following in October 1887: "In the fall of 1884 the iron horse reached the Park River about three miles west of the Kensington school house and a new town sprang into being." The Rev. H.P. Cooper had just been appointed pastor of Park River and besides had charge of Grafton. Services at Park River were held for months in a railway coach until March when the new church building was occupied, Rev. J. Turner preaching the first sermon therein. C.H. Honey and Robert Fletcher were active in this church work. The church was finished and dedicated on Jan. 9, 1887, Cooper still being the pastor in charge. The membership changed very much during these years and the membership generally reached 100."

The Rev. Cooper married Margaret Widdes on Feb. 4, 1886, at Park River. She was the daughter of William and Catherine (McAllister) Widdes who came from Canada in 1881 and settled at Park River. They had six children.

The Cooper family members and the date of their demise are: The Rev. Henry Peyton Cooper, Fargo, 1937; Margaret Widdes Cooper, Fargo, 1936; Harry Hunter Cooper, Kenmare, 1941; Laura Gilmore Cooper Nelson, Ada, Minn., 1963; Wanda Gladys Cooper Johnson, Casselton, N.D., 1970; Ruth Margaret Cooper Ottinger, Valley City, N.D., 1969, Mary Floy Cooper Roberts Forde, Bismarck, 1974; and Dorothy Catherine Cooper Greengard, living at Williston.

HENRIETTA COST

Henrietta Sager was born at Appleton, Wisc. She married Anton Cost and later moved to Park River, N.D.

Anton had a harness shop where he made and fixed harness.

Henrietta took in washing and ironing to help make money to take care of their seven children, Lizzie, William, John, Andy, Herbie, Louie and Helen.

About 1910, Henrietta and son John went to Wild Rose, near Williston, N.D., and each homesteaded on 160 acres of land. They later sold the land and again joined the rest of the family at Park River.

Lizzie married Amos Pengilly and farmed near Pisek, N.D. They were parents of two children, Ernest of Park River and Grace (Mrs. Tony Hajicek) of Grand Forks.



Henrietta Cost

William never married. He was a World War I veteran and a mail carrier. He died at the age of 35.

John lived with his mother, Henrietta. He worked on the railroad and later worked for Clark Farup in the Ford garage. He also served in the Army in World War I. John never married.

Herbie died as a small boy at the age of 1½ years.

Andy married Tina Kafka and had two children, Victor, deceased and Millie (Mrs. Jim Chromy) of Fordville. He was in World War I and died a young man at the age of 31.

Louie married Mary Service. He worked on a farm near Pisek for Richard Pengilly and later worked for Clark Farup, farming near Park River and Fordville. Louie and Mary had three children, Lloyd, deceased, Lorraine (Mrs. Dan Boom; San Bernardino, Calif., and Florence (Mrs. Edward Novak) of Lankin.

Helen married Bob Griffin and lived in California. She had one daughter, Shirley (Mrs. Pobuda) also of California.

John and his mother, Henrietta, continued to live in Park River until their deaths. Henrietta lived to the age of 90 and then John lived alone until his death in 1973.

LOUIE COST

Louie Arthur Cost was born April 12, 1891 to Anton and Henrietta Sager Cost at Park River, N.D. Louie had two sisters, Lizzie and Helen and four brothers, William, John, Andrew and Herbie.

Louie married Mary Erovick Service December 14, 1910 at Park River. She was the daughter of Thomas and Mary Erovick. Mary was born in Czechoslovakia and came to the United States as a young girl. She had one sister, Annie and four brothers, Tony, Jack, Frank and James. Mary had one son, Eugene, by a previous marriage.

After living in Park River a short time, Louie and Mary moved to the Richard Pengilly farm near Pisek.

They had three children, Lloyd, Lorraine and Florence. Lloyd married Evangeline Potulny and had two children. Lorraine married Stanley Koubek and had two children. Florence married Edward Novak and had one son.

After Richard Pengilly's death in 1923, Louie and his family moved to the Clark Farup farm three miles west of Park River, which is now owned by Loftsgard.

Much skiing and horseback riding was enjoyed by the children. Also the whole family enjoyed picking the many kinds of berries which Mary canned. This is now part of Homme Dam.

In 1932, the family moved to another Farup farm near Fordville where Louie continued to work for Mr. Farup.

Mary died Feb. 12, 1938 and one month later a fire destroyed the home. A new home was built that summer and the family moved into it in October. Jim Miller now lives in this house.

While they worked for Farup, Mary cooked for all extra help in seeding, potato work and harvest. Clark furnished the meat and cows to be milked so they could have milk and cream. Mary got 15 cents a meal for feeding the men.

Louie continued working for them until 1941 when Mr. Farup was killed in a plane crash. Louie then moved to Fordville and lived with his son, Lloyd. He worked for Martin Potulny until he retired.

Louie died April 1, 1976.

JOSEPH B. COULTER



Joseph B. Coulter family: William George, Joseph B., Johanna, Ruth, Etta Mae



Ada Coulter

Joseph B. Coulter was born at Minden, Ontario, on July 6, 1858, and came to North Dakota in 1880. He settled first in Grand Forks. When he left Grand Forks with three friends, they walked northeast until they came to the "big tree." They split up there, two going to the low land and one to the high land.

Joseph Coulter settled in Vernon township and his friend, Mr. Lamb, continued west to Michigan. Through thrift and application, Coulter met with unusual success and at the time of his death was managing his threshing crew. He died September, 1912. He was vice president of the Farmers Security Bank of Park River.

Joseph Coulter married Johanna Larness Oct. 14, 1890. They had five children: Etta Mae who married James Lawson, William George who married Cora Richardson, Ruth who married Garfield Mauritson, Joseph who married Mabel Cowans, in Brownsville, Texas, and Ada Coulter of Fargo.

Joseph Coulter had two brothers and five sisters. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church. Mrs. Coulter died in May 1940.

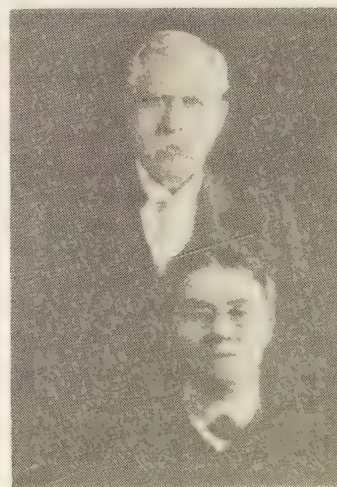
CUDMORE FAMILY

The Cudmore family had been traced back to the early 1800's when Richard Cudmore was born. His wife was born in 1833 in Devonshire, England, making her home first in Toronto, then in the wilderness of Huron County, Ont., Six children were born. Two of them, Joseph and Annie, made their home in Park River. Richard Cudmore died Oct. 14, 1906, at Clinton, Ont.

Annie Cudmore was married to John Fitzpatrick on Oct. 12, 1878, at Clinton and they resided there until 1882 when they came to North Dakota and made their home on a farm in Golden Township. They resided there for a couple years, then moved to Park River in 1884 when the town was started. John Fitzpatrick was a carpenter and during a period of many years in this community he built a large number of school houses, farm buildings and homes, including his own. He took an active part in civic affairs and served as alderman of Park River for ten years. Annie (Cudmore) Fitzpatrick, who was born Aug. 2, 1855, died June 24, 1917, at the age of 61. John Fitzpatrick was born in 1840 and died June 25, 1920, at the age of 80 years.

In 1916 Mrs. Richard Cudmore moved from Clinton, Ont., to Park River and spent the last two years of her life with her daughter Annie and John Fitzpatrick. She is buried beside them in the Memorial Park Cemetery at Park River.

JOSEPH CUDMORE



Joseph and Jane Cudmore

Joseph Cudmore was born to Mr. and Mrs. Richard Cudmore in Huron County, Ont., in 1850. He was married to Jane Ann Landsborough in 1879. One daughter, Hester Jane, was born there Aug. 26, 1881. In 1882 they emigrated to Kensington Township and homesteaded a quarter of land north of Park River. Joseph hauled the lumber from Grand Forks to build their home. It took him a week to make the round trip with oxen. It was in this home that their son Alvin Joseph was born Nov. 8, 1884. Joseph and Jane lived in a home at the site of the Power House shed on Prospect Ave. in Park River a couple of years before moving to Portland, Ore. in 1911. Joseph died Jan. 20, 1920, and Jane on April 30, 1934, and were buried in Portland.

HESTER CUDMORE



Hester Cudmore

Hester Cudmore never married. After graduating from WCAS, she and her brother Alvin moved to the western part of the state to stake their claim near Bowbells, N.D. After a year or so they returned to Park River. In 1916 Hester moved to Portland, Ore., to care for her ailing parents. She remained in Portland until 1956 when she moved back to the homestead to be cared for by her nephew, Erwin and family. She died at St. Ansgar's Hospital May 30, 1958, and was buried in the Memorial Cemetery beside Alvin and Charlotte.

ALVIN CUDMORE



Alvin Cudmore Family - 1937
seated (L-R): Alvin, Glen and Charlotte.
standing (L-R): Clayton, Ethel and Erwin.

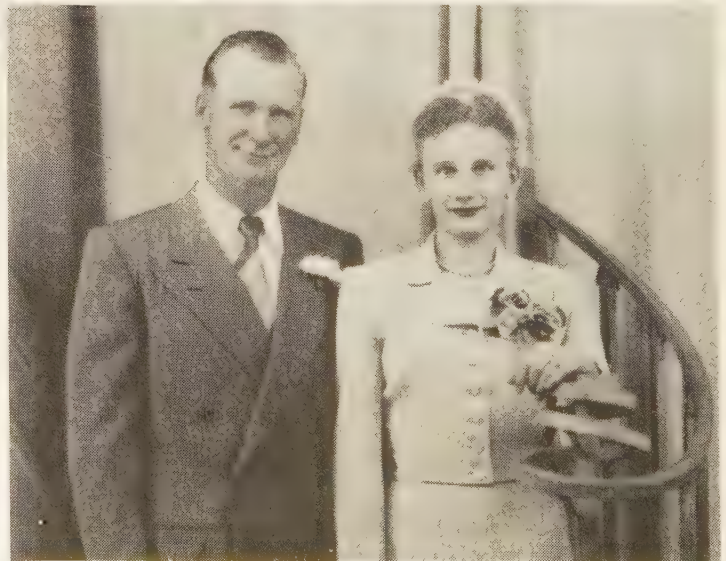
Alvin Cudmore married Charlotte Ruth Buckley on Nov. 24, 1915, and they continued to live on the Cudmore Homestead. Alvin threshed many years for himself and the neighbors. They didn't have a cookcar, so Charlotte fed the threshing crew in their home even when they threshed for the neighbors. Alvin served on the Kensington Township board for many years, and both he and Charlotte were on the school board for Kensington District 98, where all their children and some of their grandchildren received their elementary education. They also boarded the teachers for many years. It seemed their hearts and home were open to everybody. There was always one or two homeless men that would stay over the winter until they found work in the spring. Charlotte made sure she always had an abundance of food prepared because it seemed anyone who came into the yard had to be fed. She worked hard raising chickens, ducks, geese and a huge garden to put all that food on the table and supplement the farm income. Theirs was a typical farming operation with raising cattle, horses, hogs and sheep, along with small grains, potatoes and corn. They also cut corn or made silage for themselves and the neighbors.

Alvin and Charlotte had one daughter, Ethel Lillian. She married Calvert Jones and raised seven children. They were Rodel, Neil, Embert, Darlene, Jack, Carroll and Rob. They lived in Minneapolis, Minn., the last several years. Rodel passed away in 1966 from hepatitis. Ethel died following a heart attack in Dec. 1979 at the age of 61. Both are buried in the Ft. Snelling Cemetery in St. Paul, Minn. Ethel and Cal have 10 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

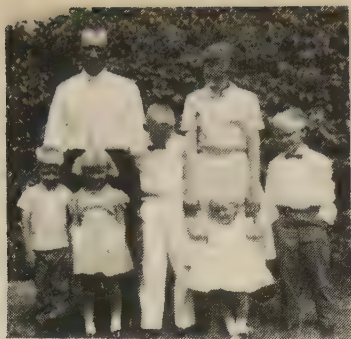
Alvin and Charlotte also had three sons, Erwin Howard Walter, Clayton Alvin and Glen Wayne. There are 22 grandchildren, 30 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren. In 1942 they retired due to poor health and purchased a home in Park River located at 119 Code Avenue North, presently owned by Jerry Cicha.

Alvin died at the age of 62 on Feb. 13, 1947, and three months later Charlotte died on Mother's Day, May 12, 1947, at the age of 52. Charlotte Ruth was born April 12, 1895, to Robert and Margaret (Valentine) Buckley in Armagh County, Cranagill, Ireland, and came to America when she was about seven years old. Alvin and Charlotte are laid to rest in the Memorial Park Cemetery in Park River.

CLAYTON A. CUDMORE



Clayton and Betty Cudmore - 1952



Clayton and Betty Cudmore with children; Dean, Dawn, Tom, Jay and Karen.



Keith Cudmore

Clayton Alvin Cudmore was born to Alvin and Charlotte Cudmore on January 18, 1921, in Park River. Clayton had two brothers, Erwin and Glenn and one sister, Ethel.

Clayton worked on the family farm until he entered the army in 1942. He was discharged from the Army because his dad needed him to help at home. Clayton's parents retired from farming in 1942.

Clayton and Erwin became partners in the family farm. Not long after Clayton's parents retirement, they both passed away within months of each other.

In 1952, Clayton married Elizabeth (Betty) Kasprick, daughter of Anton and Blanche Kasprick. They were married in St. John's Catholic Church at Grafton. After their honeymoon, they settled west of the home place on the Martin farm which Clayton had purchased.

Clayton and Betty had six children: Thomas, Alvin, twins Dawn and Dean, Karen and Keith.

Sometime during the 1960's Clayton and Erwin dissolved their partnership. Clayton kept on farming and he also had a gravel business. Some of his major projects in this area are the Fordville Dam and Larimore Dam. All of his sons helped him in his business. Clayton kept his business until his death Dec. 31, 1982. Some of the boys are still in the gravel business. Clayton also had a fancy for horses and he always had at least one on the farm.

Tom married Sandy Aabrekke. They have three children: Tammie, Craig and Anna. Tom is in the trucking business.

Alvin (Jay) farms the family farm and lives at home with his mother.

Dawn married Craig Jarolimek. They farm near Forest River, raising hogs. They have two daughters, Casey and Eris.

Dean is married to Margaret Saylor from Backoo. They have five children: Gene, Dean, Shawn, Sara and Jeanie. Dean does mechanic work on various types of equipment.

Karen graduated from UMC and works in Grafton. Keith goes to high school in Park River.

ERWIN CUDMORE FAMILY

The beginning of Erwin's family history is recorded in the Walsh County Heritage Books. He and his wife, Bethel (Ingulsrud), still reside on the Cudmore Homestead, which is registered as the "Valley View Farm." Although they are both retired, they keep busy with church, community affairs and their hobbies. Erwin's main hobby is collecting old tractors, restoring them to running condition and painting them. He also collects other antique machinery and tools. If you can't find him working on one of his old tractors, he's probably at an auction sale.



Erwin Cudmore family: front (L-R): Lee, Elaine, Erwin, Bethel, Adele and Leonard.

back (L-R): Richard, Cyndie, Wendy and Larry

Betty, as Erwin calls her, shares in his interest of collecting antiques. She paints the names, trim and puts the decals on the tractors he has restored. She collects household items, so she enjoys going to sales with Erwin when household goods are sold. She is always on the lookout for something old or unusual, finding pieces to match what she has or buying something with her initials on it.

Erwin and Bethel have four children and ten grandchildren. Adele Erna married Leonard Leroy Momerak. She is Director of Nursing at the Lutheran Sunset Home and Leonard is a building contractor in Grafton where they live. They have three children: Alyson Beth, Brenda Caye and William Erwin.

Lee Erwin is farming the Cudmore Homestead along with his own farming operations. He married Elaine Ione Amundson, who is assistant manager of the ASCS Office in Park River. They have one son, Robert Lee, and a daughter, Rhonda Elaine.

Larry Duane is presently serving as Pastor of the Clark Fork Lutheran Church in Clark Fork, Idaho, and assistant in the Sandpoint Lutheran Church. He married Wendy Lee Hanson who is a Home Ec. Major, but presently is a full-time mother of three. They are Timothy Jon, Matthew Lee and Rachel ReNae, who was born July 15, 1983.

Cynthia Caye is a beauty operator, works part-time at the Wagon Wheel and teaches music lessons in their home in Washburn, N.D. She married Richard Anthony Perkerewicz and they have two sons, Jedidiah James and Michael Anthony. Richard is presently employed at Minnkota Power Cooperative, Inc., at Center, N.D.

Although Erwin and Bethel will continue to search and restore whatever they can to preserve their heritage for their family, their prize possessions will always be their children and grandchildren who have blessed their lives so abundantly.

CURRIE FAMILY

Stephen L. Currie and his family moved to Park River in 1976 to practice law with Roy Neste.

He had previously lived in Park River from 1945 to 1954 when his father, Lyle W. Currie was the Walsh County Agent. His mother, Gladys, taught school while they lived here. In 1954 the family moved to Grand Forks where Steve graduated from St.

James High School and the University of North Dakota, where he received a law degree in 1968.

In June of 1967, Steve married Susan G. Freund of Grand Forks. She graduated from St. James High School and attended the University of North Dakota for two years.

Steve and Sue have five children, Nancy, born January, 1969; Andrew, born February, 1970, Michael, born March 1977; Kevin, born August, 1979; and Katherine, born November 1981.

Upon moving here in 1976, the Currie's purchased what was formerly the Farup house located on the corner of Briggs and Highway 17.

CARL H. DAHL



Carl H. Dahl family - 1955

Carl H. Dahl and Martha M. Cicha were married on February 26, 1935, at St. Luke's Catholic Church of Veseleyville, N.D. Their parents were Edward and Carrie Evenson Dahl of Milton and Park River and Joseph and Elenora Veseli Cicha of Veseleyville.)

They moved to Park River and worked in the vicinity. In the late 1930's they bought land southwest of Park River and started farming, until retiring in 1980 due to ill health. Carl passed away in March of 1981. Both were active members of St. Mary's Catholic Church of Park River.

Martha Dahl is an active member of St. Mary's Altar Society and Christian Mothers.

The Dahls have two sons, Donald at home and Ernest of Kent, Wash. Ernest married LaVern Oen on June 29, 1957. Ernest was

in the Air Force for four years. Ernest and LaVern have three children; Linda married Patrick Barber, and Michael and Peggy at home.

EDWARD E. DAHL

Edward E. Dahl was born February 17, 1871. He came from Norway at the age of 11 years to the Milton vicinity. He was a farm laborer and also worked with masonry. He was married to Carrie Evenson Simonson in 1893, who came from Hamar, Norway. Children by Mrs. Dahl's former marriage were Sam Simonson and Mrs. Bert Levin. To the Edward Dahls, four sons were born: Ivan, Martin, Adolph and Carl.

Ivan was in the service in World War I. After he was discharged, he started farming. Martin was a farmer in Ray, N.D. Carl farmed by Park River and Adolph worked with the REA while in Langdon area. They are now all deceased.

AVIS CLEMETSON DAHLEN FAMILY



The Selvin Dahlen family.

Avis Clemetson was born March 23, 1920 in Park River, the daughter of Gustie and Henry Clemetson. She attended WCAS, where she sang in the Glee Club.

She married Selvin Dahlen, the son of Martin and Ann Dahlen of Dahlen, N.D. They lived in Park River where Selvin was a carpenter.

They had one daughter, Gay Ann, who was born in Park River. In 1942 they moved to Portland, Oregon, where Selvin worked at the Oregon shipyards, and later at the Port of Portland.



Carl and Martha Dahl



Edward and Carrie Dahl - 1938



Cindy Midgarden.



Scott Midgarden.

Their son, Clair (Bud) was born at Silverton, Oregon in 1942. Both Gay Ann and Bud attended and graduated from Roosevelt High School in Portland.

Gay Ann married Mark Midgarden, son of Dewey and Clara Midgarden of Hoople, N.D. He graduated from WCAS and is a farmer in the Hoople area.

They had two children, Cindy, who graduated from Park River High School in 1981 and is now attending Moorhead State University in Moorhead, Minn. She is majoring in music. Scott is a junior at Park River High School and is active in sports.

Clair (Bud) Dahlen married Sherry Hunter in 1979 and they have one daughter, Tiffany Ann, who is three years old.

Clair served in the U.S. Coast Guard for four years, and is now a tug boat pilot working on the Willamette and Columbia Rivers in Oregon.

DAVID A. DALEY FAMILY



David and Anna Mae Daley



Jennifer, Jeffrey, Laura Daley

David Allen Daley was born August 22, 1952, to Ralph and Violet (Charon) Daley. He is the fourth in family of ten children. The family members are Ellen, Jerry, Richard, David, Paul, Glenn, Steve, Nadine, Dennis and Elaine.

David attended country school a couple of years and then attended school in Park River. He graduated from Walsh County Agricultural School in 1971. After being a farm laborer until the summer of 1975, he attended North Dakota State School of Science where he studied plumbing, cooling and heating. He returned to Park River and was employed with Hunter Plumbing and Heating for five months. In August, 1977, he started employment with G.J. LaHaise and Sons Plumbing and Heating in Grafton. He is still employed there. David is a member of the Army National Guard since 1972. In 1982, he became a member of the Park River Fire Department.

David married Anna Mae Greicar, daughter of Frank and Anna (Dvorak) Greicar of Pisek on October 26, 1974. They were married at St. John's Catholic Church in Pisek. Anna Mae was born June 11, 1951, at Grafton, N.D. She attended Pisek Public School and Mayville State College where she received a bachelor of science degree in elementary education and library science. She taught at Fordville, Pisek and Nash. Anna Mae was also employed by Rosenblatte, Inc., in Breckenridge, Minn., and Wil-Rich, Inc. in Wahpeton, N.D., while David attended NDSSS. Currently Anna Mae teaches basic skills at Pisek Public School.

David and Anna Mae are the parents of three children: Jennifer, born July 12, 1979; Jeffrey, born March 20, 1981; and Laura, born December 5, 1982. They reside in Park River.

HENRICK FREDRICK JOHN DENCKER



Henry and Elseba Dencker and family: (L-R): Henry Dencker Jr., Henry Dencker Sr. standing: Minnie Dencker Schulz, Mrs. Dencker and seated is Elsie Dencker Lohse.

Henry F.J. Dencker was born October 30, 1855, in Elmshorn Holstein, Germany, the son of Fritz and Sofia Dencker.

He made his first trip to the United States in May of 1881. When he was 26 years of age he went to work as a farm laborer at Rochester, Minn., until April of 1883 when he came to Grand

Forks, N.D. From Grand Forks he went to Grafton and then to Park River. On the fourth of August in 1883 he homesteaded in Golden Township of Walsh County. The first building on the place

was a 10 by 12 shanty made of rough boards and banked with sod. This was built in April of 1884.

The fall of 1887 he went back to Germany to marry his sweetheart. On February 26, 1888, Henry Dencker and Elseba Hackmann were united in marriage at Elmshorn Holstein. They came to America in May of 1888. Elseba Hackmann was born October 23, 1852 in Elmshorn Holstein.

The first year Mr. Dencker farmed here he grew 250 bushels of wheat, some oats, potatoes and about five tons of hay which he cut with a scythe and raked by hand.

The first trip he made was mighty hard. He went from St. Thomas to old Edinburgh, about two and one half miles northwest of present day Edinburg. From there he homesteaded at the quarter NE, Section 3-157-56. Henry crossed the Park River on a log, then followed the road that is now Highway 17 and by what is now the city of Park River. There was nothing to be seen of Park River except a small building on the hill west of town.

Henry and Elseba Dencker had three children: Henry Dencker Jr.; Minnie Dencker, now Mrs. Otto Schultz; Elsie Dencker (Mrs. August Lohse); and one stepson, Herman Dencker. Minnie Schultz is now the only living child. She is residing at the Cavalier Memorial Nursing Home in Cavalier, N.D.

Mr. Dencker served as Public Township Supervisor from 1888 to 1910, with 15 years as Township treasurer. He also was treasurer of School District No. 125, Golden Township, Walsh County. He was president of the Farmers Security Bank from its incorporation until it closed during the depression of the 1930's.

Mr. and Mrs. Dencker retired from farming in 1923, at which time they moved to Park River. There they bought a home in the Harvey Addition. This addition had been started on June 10, 1893, by George P. Harvey. Harvey then sold it to Andrew N. and Annie Rude, also known as Andrew and Annie Rudie. The Rudies built a house, stable and granary on the property. This belonged to some of the Rudie families until May of 1923 when it was sold to the bank of Park River. Henry Dencker then purchased the land from C.D. Lord on July 7, 1923. They resided there until their deaths.

Elseba Dencker passed away on April 5, 1934. Henry Dencker passed away on March 3, 1943. In 1943 Mrs. August Lohse, their daughter, inherited the property in Park River. At present it is owned by Roy and Mary Seboe. Mary is the only child of August and Elsie Lohse.

Henry and Elseba Dencker are buried in the German Lutheran Cemetary in Golden Township. The cemetary was founded by Henry Dencker. This land is now owned by Roy and Mary Lohse Seboe. Mrs. Roy Seboe is the granddaughter of Henry Dencker.

submitted by Roy and Mary Seboe.

DOUGHERTY FAMILY



J.J. Dougherty Family. Back row: Walter, Harold, and Jack. Seated: James Emmett, Florence Dougherty O'Brien, Mrs. J.J. (Margaret) and J.J. Dougherty.

The personification of the family coat of arms, "Vigor Our Heritage", lives in the song and story in County Donegal, Ireland, from where the O'Dougherty clan migrated to America. The descendants of the Dougherty's stand 15th in the list of the commonest surnames in Ireland.

In early 1800's, the O'Dougherty clan came to America. Some of the family stayed in Boston, Mass., while the more adventurous ones came by way of New Orleans, up the Mississippi River to Lyncurgus, Iowa, to an established Irish settlement known as French Creek.

James J. Dougherty was born Oct. 13, 1857. His father had dropped the 'O', being known then as Dougherty.

Here James J. Dougherty received his early education. He was an excellent student and throughout his lifetime he was an avid

leader. He was gifted with a photographic mind. He enrolled in Valpariso University, Ind., where he received a teacher's certificate.

Margaret Kelleher was born in Allamakee County, Iowa, Oct. 13, 1859, where she grew up. July 19, 1881, she married James J. Dougherty. July 27, 1882, they moved to Park River. That year J. Dougherty became the first school teacher in Larimore. He traveled by horseback, receiving \$35 a month as his salary.

In 1883, they moved to Grand Forks, where James worked for Stephen Collins who was in the coal and lumber business. The following year, he came back to Park River and was associated with McEwan and Dougherty Company - a farm implement business serving Park River, Conway, Edinburg and Milton.

In 1907, he organized the N.W. Machinery Company and the McEwan-Dougherty West Line of Elevators in Saskatchewan, Canada.

J.J. Dougherty was known as a real estate tycoon. It was said that you could walk west of Park River to Rugby, N.D., and not put foot on any land that wasn't Jim Dougherty's.

He acquired large holdings in the Swift Current, Canada area; including elevators and a large general store. This enterprise was destroyed by fire at a loss of a half million dollars. His land in Kansas never brought in an oil well in his lifetime.

J.J. Dougherty was one of four to organize the Implement Dealers Mutual Fire Insurance Company where he served as director for 20 years.

Dougherty never lost his keen interest in politics. He was affiliated with the Democratic Party. In 1897 to 1899, he served in the State Legislature for two terms. He was elected as mayor of Park River for four terms. He served on the school board for several years. He was appointed post master of Park River by President Wilson, serving eight years.

He provided his family with much of the worldly goods such as a racing horse named Florence, ponies for his children's enjoyments, pets, dancing, painting and music lessons, traveling, higher education and fast cars.

Their home was torn down in 1975 to be replaced by the Gate City Federal Savings and Loan at 201 Briggs Avenue South.

Through Dougherty's help and assistance, Mrs. Dougherty's relatives, the Kennys, O'Briens and Kellehers were brought to Park River in 1902 from Iowa.

The obituary of Mrs. James J. Dougherty (Margaret Kelleher) reads: "In the death of Mrs. Dougherty, Park River has lost a good and useful citizen who was universally loved."

Four sons and one daughter were born: John, Emmett, Florence, Harold and Walter.

John received his early education in Park River, attended Georgetown University, at Washington, D.C., where he articulated in law. He held the world's record in sprinting. This record is posted in Georgetown University. From here he attended the University of Minnesota. He married Julie Grace of Grafton, and they left for Swift Current, Canada in 1909, to run the J.J. Dougherty business.

Two children, Margaret (Mrs. Fening) of Monticelli, Iowa, and T.E. Dougherty, Waterloo, Iowa were born in Swift Current. A son, Jim, born in Waterloo, Iowa, died at age seven. There are six grandchildren and seven great grandchildren in this family.

Emmett, a graduate of Park River High School, attended Notre Dame at South Bend, Ind. He, too, studied law, but never practiced. His career was in business. He married Esther Weiss of Chicago, Ill. One son, James Emmett, Jr., was born. James Emmett, Jr., left one son, James Emmett the III, who lives in

Chicago. He has one son, James Emmett, the IV in Chicago.

Esther Weiss Dougherty lives in Chicago Heights, Ill.

Florence Dougherty, after finishing high school in Park River, enrolled at St Catherine's in Minneapolis. She spent one year here, transferring to the North Dakota University where she received a teacher's certificate. Her teaching career was short-lived. She married Clement O'Brien who was a cashier in Farmers Security Bank of Park River. Five children were born: Jean (Mrs. Jack Strouts) of Fort Wayne, Indiana; Walter of Alaska (now deceased); Pat of Minneapolis (now deceased), who married Lydia Larson of Park River (daughter of Lars Larson); Nancy (Mrs. Jim Balcom) and Mary Ann, who married Lee Johnson of Carroll, Iowa, were born in Minneapolis, where Clement O'Brien had been transferred to the First Bank Corporation in Minneapolis. Later he owned and operated a hardware store in South Minneapolis. There are 28 grandchildren.

Harold received his early education in Park River. He attended a business college in Grand Forks, coming back after his graduation to work in the Park River Roller Mill as bookkeeper. He worked here until it was destroyed by fire. From here he worked as bookkeeper in the Williston Roller Mill for many years. This, too, was destroyed by fire. He returned to Park River with his wife and family, worked for the Standard Oil Company until his retirement, and lived in the J.J. Dougherty residence until Mabel and Harold's death.

He served as mayor of Park River, like his father, and married Mabel Laxdal, Cavalier. They had three children: Dan, Betty and Donna, and four grandchildren. Betty chose a career in the Military, receiving many honors and promotions. Donna (Mrs. Burney Cook) lives in Minneapolis. She is employed by the Girl Scouts. Dan has made a career with Zenith Corporation, as vice president. He and his wife, Donna, live in Northfield, Ill., with three of their children. Dan died in October, 1983.

By Agnes Dougherty Henderson
Park River, N.D.

W. L. DOUGHERTY FAMILY

"Vigor, Our Heritage"

The family coat of Arms "Vigor, Our Heritage" had a deep-seated influence on the youngest son, Walter Leo, of J.J. Dougherty and Margaret (Kelleher) Dougherty of Park River. He was extremely proud of his Irish heritage.

Walter L. Dougherty was born and baptized in the Catholic Church in Miles City, Mont., on Sept. 20, 1893. His mother was on her periodic health tour, trying to effect a cure for asthma, a malady she carried with her until her death. Soon they came home to Park River to join the other members of the family who were anxious to meet the new member of their family. Here Walter spent his early life.

Under this affluent family, much was given to Walter as a child. He loved his dog and ponies. The motorcycle and fast cars he possessed accelerated his love for fast transportation. Music and painting lessons were not for him. Dancing lessons, much to his chagrin, he could not escape. He felt his little playmates might think he was a "sissy." His mother insisted he be exposed to the social graces. She would see that he was properly dressed and then march him up to his dancing teacher's studio up over the Walstrom's building which is where the Variety Store eventually was operated. This dance floor was very popular in the early 1900's. Walter became a graceful and popular dancer

which pleasure he enjoyed all his life.

He loved to tinker with cars. At a very early age, you could find him in Sam Holland's Garage, the car wizard of the early years. Under this master's tutelage, Walter became an excellent mechanic. To see his hands work on a car you knew that engines possessed him. It was his great love. Mr. Robertson, a pioneer merchant, said he would rather have Walter, as young as he was, work on his car than anyone he knew. There was nothing Walter couldn't repair- plumbing, electrical things, carpentry, you name it, he could do it.

His hobby was growing a beautiful flower garden. His hands were never idle. He loved the outdoors. His greatest contribution in sports were high school football and roller skating. He played baseball, golf and fished and hunted game. Taking his son, Thomas James, with him on these trips were happy times for both of them.



Walter L. Dougherty

This early picture of Walter was taken shortly before he entered first grade. Harold, his older brother, took Walter to the Barber Shop to have his lovely curls nipped off before school, much to the unhappiness of his mother.

Walter graduated from Park River High School in 1913, where he had been active in sports. That summer, he worked as a common laborer at the construction site of the Walsh County Agricultural School. This gave him a sense of accomplishment. The summer of 1910-11, he worked at his father's enterprises at Swift Current, Canada, enjoying his new found friends there. The summer of 1912, he worked on his father's large farm, east and south of Adams.

In the fall of 1913, he enrolled at the St. Thomas College in St. Paul, Minn., where his father directed him to study law. The strict regimentation of this school and its curriculum was indeed not what he wanted, so he became a "drop-out." From there he attended a business college in Minneapolis. Upon completion, he returned to Park River and then to Edinburg where he purchased and operated an automobile agency with a partner.

When World War I broke out, he sold his interest to his partner and enlisted in the First Signal Corps in 1917. He served in the Verdun Sector with the French Army, Toul Sector, St. Mihiel Offensive, Meuse Argonne Offensive, where he was gassed. He was discharged in late 1918.

Walter and his friend, Ernest Harris, organized the Paul Farup Post No. 147. They secured the location from Sam Robertson of the Robertson Lumber Co. as a "gift," a contractor was hired and permission was granted from the Farup family to name the post the Paul Farup Post. Since its charter in 1920, this Post has been active and growing. The first officers were W.L. Dougherty,

as vice chairman; E.M. Harris as Post Adjutant and Charles F. Harris as Commander.

Walter operated his father's 1000 acre farm east and south of Adams for a few years. The losses he sustained here and particularly the poisoning of 21 head of horses by a disgruntled hired hand discouraged the business of farming for him.

In the fall of 1921, Agnes Heltne came to teach music and English in the Park River High School. She was born in Grafton of a pioneer merchant, T.L. Heltne and his wife, Ollegard (Swiggum) Heltne. She received her early education in the Grafton School. She was active in the school, community and church activities, and also in music, dramatics and sports from the third grade throughout her high school days. She was baptized, confirmed and married in the Grafton Lutheran Church and never took her membership out of this church.

Agnes received a B.A. Degree and a Teacher's Music Certificate from the St. Olaf College at Northfield, Minn., in 1920. It was a high honor for her to have been chosen a member of the famed St. Olaf Choir in her freshman year. Under the dynamic director, F. Melius Christensen, she was privileged to travel and sing with this famous organization throughout the Midwest for three years. His magnetic personality, his training and direction in A capella choir singing was the high light of her St. Olaf career.

In the fall of 1920, she taught and was principal of St. Thomas High School in St. Thomas, N.D. This was an enthusiastic, happy and successful year, where she had an opportunity to put her learning to work. Her girls' basketball team was undefeated. In the fall of 1921, Agnes Heltne came to teach English and Music in the Park River High School. Her undefeated girls' basketball team gave her much satisfaction. The dramatic plays and music groups under her training were very successful. Her greatest satisfaction was to know that many of her students became successful and useful citizens in their various fields of endeavor.

The first of April, 1922, she was rehired to teach another year in Park River. However, romance won out and her contract was terminated on Dec. 31, 1922. She married Walter L. Dougherty on April 29, 1922.

Is hindsight better? To this day, Agnes Dougherty mulls this over in her mind. She insisted that to live on a farm without modern conveniences was not what she had in mind. Prices for the commodities raised were poor and the yield was small. Only the sturdy survived the hardships of drought, burning winds and poor crops year after year. She won out and Walter terminated his farming enterprises and returned to the business world.

Through his good friend, Lloyd Cameron, a former Park River boy, who was general manager of the Missouri Division of the Standard Oil Company, Walter was hired as a salesman for that division.

Walter went on to his first job in Chillicothe, Mo. Agnes stayed in Grafton to substitute for a teacher until the school year was completed. In June of 1922, she joined Walter at Chillicothe. From there, they moved to St. Joseph, Mo., and Albany, Mo.

As a salesman for Standard Oil Company, Walter was transferred to the Illinois division, locating in Joliet, Ill., for four years. From there, he was sent to the Wisconsin division as a salesman in Fon Du Lac, Kenosha and Racine, Wisc. This nomad type of life was not to their liking. J.J. Dougherty, Walter's father, urged Walter to return to Park River with his family to a more permanent job. Thomas James, their only son, was born in 1925 at the Grafton Deaconess Hospital while Walter was working in the Missouri Division of the Standard Oil.

They returned to Park River in 1933. Here Walter operated a wholesale beer establishment. This led to the Club, which he operated for 11 years. He sold the Club in 1947.

Diane Dougherty was born in 1934, a year after they returned to Park River to live. Their children gave them much happiness. They were good students, active in sports, music, dramatics and social activities. Their friends were legion.

Tommie had known hard manual labor during the summer vacations. He worked on Highway 17 when it was first built. He picked potatoes in the potato fields and worked in the potato pit, which was hard work, but the pay was well worth the effort.

To have little Diane, just eight years old, taken to her final rest was a wound that never healed for both her parents, Agnes and Walter. She died October 29, 1942, and is buried in the Calvary Cemetery in the Dougherty Plot in Park River.

Just eight months later, in May 1943, Thomas James enlisted in the U.S. Navy and saw active service in L.S.T. No. 147 in the South Pacific. This, coupled with the loss of their daughter, Diane, was almost more that Agnes and Walter could bear. They were devastated! Their prayers for their son's return were answered in 1946. Their carefree boy of 17 had matured to a nervous, apprehensive young man whom they had to nurse back to health.

In the fall of 1946, he entered the University of North Dakota where he studied for two years. He wanted to become a lawyer and with that in mind, he arranged his course of study accordingly. He joined the Sigma Ki Fraternity and is still active in the alumni association. From here, he transferred to George Washington University in Washington, D.C., where he graduated with distinction. He was in "Who's Who" in the Universities' Blue Key and "Who's Who" in Young Lawyers of the Southeast. He worked for a private firm in Washington, D.C., Dows, Atherton, Lehness, trying cases before the Federal Communications Commission at Washington, D.C. He worked for the F.C.C. for a few years and then for the Metro Media, a radio and T.V. station as counselor and vice president. He is successful and highly respected.



Mrs. Walter Dougherty (Agnes Henderson)

Agnes Dougherty became an active volunteer worker when she returned to Park River with her husband and son, Tommie, in 1933. Organizational work, charity drives, church choirs and the Walsh County chorus director, political activities, patriotic organizations and social activities filled her time. Last but not least, she chaired the Steering Committee (When no one else would take it) for the Fund and Building drive of the Good Samaritan Center in Park River. She remained on the executive board for two successive terms to see its successful operation.

She joined the American Legion Auxiliary, Unit No. 147, Park River, in October, 1933, almost before she was settled in her new home. She holds a life membership in her unit and is a 50-year

member in good standing. She has served as unit president of the ALA in 1936-1937; served on all committees; state music chairman in 1936-37; District president in 1955-56; Finance Board for three years; Department president in 1959-60; attended three national conventions as national committeewoman; was national membership chairman and won a free trip to Mexico City.

Agnes is also a charter member of the following: A.A.U.W. in 1950 of Grafton, Treasurer, 1952-53; president of the branch in 1953-55; 2nd vice president of the State and editor of their publication. Charter member of BPW at Grafton in 1954, president for two years, 1966-68. Our first successful state convention was held in 1968, she served 25 years in this organization. Charter member of the Grand Forks Women's Club, Dec. 5, 1963 (Federated) Jan. 10, 1964; president 1965-66, oldest active living president in point of service. Charter member of the Agassiz Garden Club for 25 years; state legislative chairman for 9 years, District Secretary for 4 years, resigned. Presently member of the Four Seasons Garden Club which is still federated.

Agnes Dougherty served for eleven years on the Library Board of the Park River City Library. The American Legion Auxiliary sponsored a book binding project in the year of 1936-37. Our government provided the funds to teach this craft to three widows who needed aid. Sadie Best Behnkie, Aletta Akre and one other were selected. Sadie Best Behnkie travelled to Bismarck and Grafton Libraries to teach others the skill of book binding. 200 books were given to the Library that year.

Bridge was the new social diversion which captured the card playing women. Agnes was a 9-year member of the largest and oldest bridge club- The Crocus Club of Park River. She was also a member of the Golf Club of Park River for some years (the fun years). Politically, she has given 50 years plus of continuing service to the party of her choice, the Republican Party. Directing church choirs, Orchestra directing and the Walsh County Homemakers chorus have brought her much pleasure and satisfaction. Early in life, she learned that service is our pay for the space we occupy on this earth. Nothing comes to us without diligent work and constant effort. Sure there have been disappointments and hardships, but the friends you have made down the road have indeed made life much richer. Her inspiration and help in life is best exemplified by this verse from Timothy II: "Study to show thyself approved before God, a workman who need not be ashamed."

After Walter sold his business in Park River, he became associated with the Studebaker Car Agency in Grafton, known as Wilson and Dougherty. They built a beautiful building there. After Wilson died, this partnership was dissolved. We still owned the building until 1974 when it was sold to the Grafton National Bank. Walter came back to work in Park River as a salesman for Silliman's Garage. He had a severe heart attack on July 1, 1965, from which he never recovered. He is buried in Calvary Cemetery, along with Diane and the rest of the Dougherty family, in the Dougherty plot, in Park River.

Walter Dougherty bought and remodelled the Birder House at 221 Briggs Avenue N. in Park River in 1946. With its beautiful cherry wood and inlaid maple woodwork, marble and stained glass windows, two beautiful red brick chimneys and spacious surroundings, it was a show place of that vintage. Agnes Dougherty Henderson still lives there. Agnes Dougherty's mother, Mrs. T.L. Heltne of Grafton came to live with Walter and Agnes for the last 6 years of her life. She died here on January 16, 1961 and is buried in the Grafton Lutheran Cemetery in the Heltne plot.

Upon Walter's death, Agnes went back to teaching. She taught one year at Edinburg, 2 years in Adams and 1 year at Lawton, all in North Dakota. She drove each day to her teaching jobs, coming back to Park River every night.

She was hired for 6 years by the Kenny Rehabilitation Center in Minneapolis to be the district director of the state of North Dakota. She organized every county in the state of North Dakota for volunteer workers to solicit funds for the Kenny Institute. Polio was at its peak so there was much to be done. Walsh County contributed \$20,000 in the six years she was district director. She learned to know and appreciate the great state of North Dakota and is most grateful to have had this opportunity.

In 1969, Agnes Dougherty married O.E. Henderson of Oklahoma City in the Grafton Lutheran Church. A large reception followed at 221 Briggs Avenue. Mr. Henderson was a lawyer and the founder and operator of a large chain of franchised stores, "The Humpty Dumpty Stores". In 1980, he died in the Park River Hospital and is buried in the Grafton Lutheran Cemetery in Grafton.

Thomas James Dougherty married Anne Diffendorfer of Washington, DC, who was a graduate of George Washington University, where she received many honors.

Anne Dougherty is a very supportive member of the National Methodist Church of Washington, D.C. She developed and is directing the acolyte program of their church and is a regular member of the choir. She supports her sorority and is a proud and active member of the distinguished D.A.R. of Washington, D.C. Her volunteer work for two hospitals twice a week and her volunteer work for the Hospice Care in D.C. is most gratifying. She is an ardent worker for the National Symphony in D.C. She finds time to support her children in their many activities. She takes her volunteer work for the Republican Party of Bethesda, MD, as a challenge. Anne and Thomas have eight children.

Thomas James Dougherty, Jr., graduated from Dennison College in Granville, Ohio, in 1975, with a B.A. degree. Later he enrolled in the Catholic American University of Washington, D.C., where he received his J.D. degree and is practicing law successfully in Washington, D.C.

In 1978 Scott William received his M.A. Degree in business education from Emory College in Atlanta, GA. His insurance position in Philadelphia, PA., has been most successful.

Craig Walter enrolled at Tufts College in Boston, Mass., in 1976 and in 1980 completed his last semester at Sorbonne U. of Paris, France. He is an international banker in Los Angeles, CA.

Anne Lenoir enrolled at Carnegie Mellon in Pittsburg, PA., quit school after 2½ years, worked at free lance drawing, had a job and attended night school for make up work. She will graduate from Carnegie Mellon in 1984 with a B.A. degree.

Diane Young is attending Bernard College in New York and is working in communications the summer of 1983. She will receive her B.S. degree in 1984.

Paul Christian attends St. James Academy in St. James, MD. He will graduate there in 1984.

Sharon will be a sophomore at Witman High School in Bethesda, MD., and Melanie will be in the 8th grade at Pyle in Bethesda.

Their beautiful home is located in Bethesda. It is filled with blue ribbons and trophies that their children have won in swimming meets. They play golf, bowl, ski and skate. They are excellent musicians, excelling in piano, flute and trombone. They are active in their church life, too.

THE JOSEPH DUB, SR., FAMILY



Standing: Joe Dub Jr., Gladys Dub and Bessie Dub. Seated: Blanche Dub, Joe Dub Sr., Katherine and Mary Alice.

Joseph C. Dub, Sr., was born in Czechoslovakia on August 14, 1883, to Frank and Mary (Novak) Dub. They came to Walsh County, North Dakota in 1889, settled west of Pisek in Vernon Township. He had five brothers and one sister. John, Frank, Bohumil, Anton and Albert. Sister, Mary, died in infancy. Joseph married Katheryn Kozlik on October 6, 1908 in St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Lankin, N.D. They farmed in Vernon Township, east of Lankin, until 1942 when they moved to Park River, where he resided until his death on January 17, 1972. Katheryn continues to live in Park River. They had five children, Bessie, Blanche, Mary Alice, Joseph, Jr., and Gladys.

Katheryn Kozlik was born December 24, 1892, to James and Anna (Waurunik) Kozlik, 2 miles west of Pisek, where they farmed. She had 8 brothers and sisters, John, Joseph, Frank, Charles, James, Mary (Mrs. Burdick), Anna (Mrs. Chloupek), Alice (Mrs. Valla). The family moved to Milwaukee.

Bessie Dub was born Sept. 5, 1908 in the Pisek area. She got her education at the Ramsey Grove School, which is no longer there. She married Stanley Kadlec on October 5, 1925. They had 3

children, Rodney Kadlec, Grand Forks; Delphine Larson, Bellflower, California and Deloris Rossi, Newport Beach, California. Stanley Kadlec died in October, 1934.

In 1941, Bessie married Alvin Cooper. They had one daughter, Elaine, now Elaine Johnston, who lives in Grand Forks. Alvin died December 8, 1968 and Bessie continues to reside in Grand Forks.

Blanche Dub was born to Joseph and Katheryn (Kozlik) Dub on April 6, 1911 in Vernon Township. She attended rural school district No. 53. She married Ed Triske of East Grand Forks, Minn., on January 14, 1935 at St. John's Catholic Church in Pisek.

They farmed in the East Grand Forks, Minn., area and are presently living in East Grand Forks. They are the parents of 2 children, Edna Mae, born July 12, 1936, married to Mike Gaddie on June 14, 1935 in East Grand Forks, presently living in Santa Rosa, California and are parents of four children, Cindy, Susan, Shelly and Greg.

Dan Triske was born June 7, 1940 to Ed and Blanche Triske in East Grand Forks. He married Sally Moore March 1, 1962 in East Grand Forks. They are now living in Aberdeen, S.D., and are the parents of three children, Thomas, Janelle and Daniel Joseph.



Rudolph and Mary Hajicek

Mary Alice Dub was born July 2, 1913 to Joseph C. and Katheryn Dub. She attended rural Ramsey School Dist. No. 53, lived and helped on the family farm until her marriage to Rudolph Hajicek, son of Frank and Mary Hajicek on Nov. 8, 1937. They farmed west of Pisek until they retired in October, 1974 and moved to Park River. Mary was employed by the Park River school district for 3 years. They are members of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Park River. Mary is an active member of the Altar Society.

Gladys Dub was born in Park River and was educated in the Park River Schools. Soon after graduation, she married Tom Watkins on October 6, 1949. They had 6 children, Kathy (Mrs. Evarist Ruzicka), Mary Jo, (Mrs. Tom Olson), Debbie, not

married, a registered nurse now living at McCallen, Texas; Pattie (Mrs. Greg French), Tommy who lives in Colorado Springs, Colo., and Joe is at home. Tom Watkins died March 5, 1974. On May 25, 1975, Gladys married Frank Kubesh and is now living in Grafton.



Back row: John Dub, Joseph Dub, Bohumil Dub and Albert Dub. Front row: Frank Dub and Anton Dub.

THE JOE DUB, JR., FAMILY



Joe Dub, Jr. and Julia Janousek married Oct. 6, 1941

Joseph Dub, Jr. was born in Rushford Township southwest of Park River on March 7, 1915, to Joseph C. and Katheryn (Kozlik) Dub. He attended Ramsey School District No. 53 and WCAS in Park River. He married Julia Janousek at St. Luke's Catholic Church in Veseleyville on October 6, 1941. They lived on the family farm in Vernon Township until October, 1981, when their son, James, and his family moved on the home farm. They moved to the Carl Dahl farm where they are presently living. They had 7 children, Elaine, Daniel, Dorothy, James, Mary Theresa and Bill. Joseph Wayne passed away in 1976.

Julia Janousek was born in Prairie Center Township, on May 22, 1919, to Peter and Josephine (Stejskal) Janousek. She attended rural school District No. 58. She was one of nine children, Peter, Jr.; William; Ramon; James; Josephine; Beatrice and Georgia. One sister died in infancy. They are members of St. Mary's Catholic Church. Julia is an active member of St. Mary's Altar Society and Christian Mothers and belongs to the Pisek American Legion Auxiliary.

Elaine Dub was born July 22, 1942, to Joe and Julia (Janousek) Dub in Park River. She attended rural school District No. 56 and WCAS in Park River. She was employed at the Bell Telephone Co. in Grafton, ND, until her marriage on October 11, 1969 to Myron Vareberg, son of Ordean and Ethelean Vareberg of Finley, ND, in St. Mary's Catholic Church in Park River. They lived in Walhalla, ND where he taught school for 2 years, then they lived in Gillette, Wyoming, for 2 years, then moved to Grand Forks. At the present time, they are living in Bloomington, MN, where she is employed as assistant supervisor at the Bell Telephone Co. They have 3 children, Kevin born August 24, 1970, Karla born July 12, 1973, and Kent born August 23, 1976.



Myron and Elaine (Dub) Vareberg, and Kent standing: Kevin and Karla



Dan and Delores Dub, Danny, Joel and Michael

Daniel Dub was born June 17, 1943 to Joe and Julia (Janousek) Dub in Park River. After attending rural school District No. 56 and the PR WCAS, he went into partnership farming with his dad. In 1965, he was inducted into the U.S. Army, being stationed in Georgia, overseas in France and Germany. He came home April 26, 1967. He resumed farming and married Delores Jarolimek in Veseleyville on May 15, 1970. They have 3 sons, Danny born July 11, 1971, Joel born December 13, 1973, and Michael born September 29, 1979. They are members of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Park River, where Dan was recently installed as a Eucharistic minister and the boys serve as altar boys. Delores is an active member of St. Mary's Altar Society and Christian

Mothers and belongs to the American Legion Auxiliary in Pisek. Dan is presently commander of the American Legion in Pisek.



Back (L-R): Becky, Dorothy (Dub) and Jack Karas
Front: Sarah and Tim

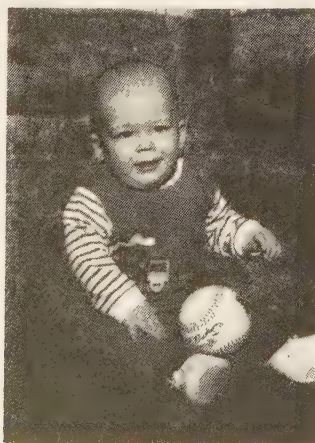
Dorothy Dub was born March 26, 1945 to Joe and Julia (Janousek) Dub in Park River. After attending rural school District No. 56 and Park River schools she was employed at the First National Bank in Grafton until her marriage to Jack Karas, son of John and Alice (Votava) Karas from Lankin. They were married in St. Mary's Catholic Church in Park River on October 1, 1966. They live and farm west of Lankin where they operate a grain, cattle and hog farm. They are parents of 3 children, Rebecca (Becky) born June 21, 1967, Tim born February 3, 1971, and Sarah born December 24, 1977. They are active members of St. Joseph Catholic Church. Dorothy is an active member of St. Joseph's Altar Society and Lankin American Legion Auxiliary. Tim serves as altar boy. Jack is an active 4-H leader of the Norton Farmers and serves on the Lankin School Board.

Joseph Wayne Dub was born April 26, 1948 to Joe and Julia (Janousek) Dub in Grafton, ND. He attended rural school District No. 56 and the Park River High School. He was employed in East Grand Forks at the sugar beet factory and helped on the family farm. He passed away April 3, 1976. Joe is buried in St. Mary's Catholic cemetery.



Jim and Monica Dub

James (Jim) Dub was born November 24, 1951 to Joe and Julia (Janousek) Dub in Grafton, ND. He attended rural school District No. 56 and Park River High School. He farmed with his dad until he was inducted into the U.S. Army on February 28, 1971. He served in Washington and Vietnam, and returned home in 1972. he resumed farming and married Monica Jelinek,



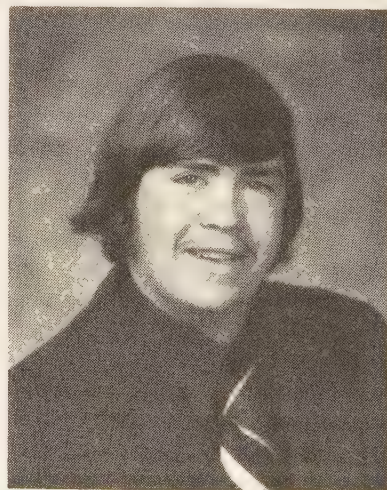
Matthew Dub

daughter of Anton and Verna (Schanilec) Jelinek in St. Mary's Catholic Church in Park River on September 30, 1978. Monica was employed by Burbidge Seed Co. in Park River for 3 years. They lived on the Sena Anderson farm in Vernon Township and upon his parents' retirement, they moved to the family farm where they operate a grain and cattle partnership. They are parents of one son, Matthew, born October 22, 1982. They are members of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Park River. Monica is an active member of the Altar Society and of the Pisek American Legion Auxiliary. James is past Commander of the Pisek American Legion.



Back (L-R): Dale Borgeson, Leah holding Theresa, and Mary Borgeson, Jessica, Jerome and Mary

Mary Theresa Dub was born November 27, 1954 in Grafton, ND to Joe and Julia (Janousek) Dub. She attended Park River schools. After graduating, she was employed at the Lutheran Sunset Home for a time and the First National Bank in Grafton until her marriage to Dale Borgeson, son of Raymond and Joyce Borgeson, on March 3, 1973, in St. Mary's Catholic Church in Park River. He was employed by the Park River Electric Co. They moved to Eagle River, Alaska in the summer of 1981 where he did electrical work in the Native villages. They returned to Park River in 1982, where they now reside with their 5 children, Leah Rae born Aug. 20, 1973, Jerome born July 5, 1976, Jessica born Feb. 29, 1979, Justin born Sept. 9, 1980 and Theresa born Sept. 13, 1982. Dale is presently working off and on in Alaska and has helped in starting a youth archery league program in Park River. Mary is active in St. Mary's Altar Society and Christian Mothers.

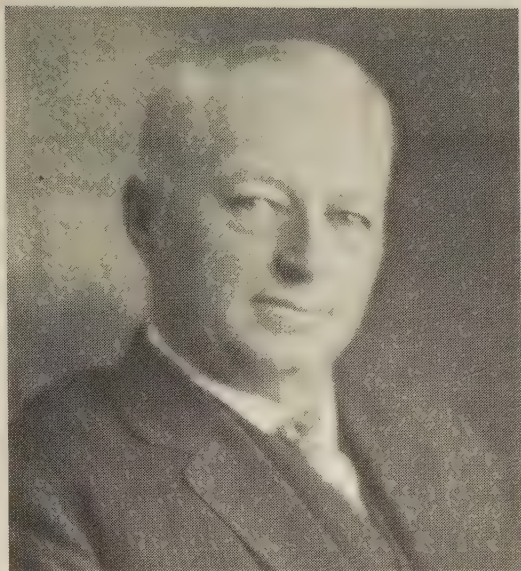


William (Bill) Dub

William (Bill) Dub was born November 19, 1948 in Park River to Joe and Julia (Janousek) Dub. He attended elementary and high school in Park River and State School of Science in

Wahpeton, ND. He is presently employed as assistant manager for the Braun Engineering Co. in Williston, ND.

JOHN A. DUNN



John A. Dunn



John A. and Ella Dunn

John A. Dunn, who was a pioneer resident and miller of Park River, N.D., was born at Zurich, Ontario, Canada on April 8, 1866. In 1886 he moved to St. Thomas, N.D., and in 1891 to Grafton, where for sixteen years he was manager of the Leistikow Flour Mills.

In 1907 John Dunn moved to Park River with his two children; John L. (deceased) and Lorraine (Mrs. L.W. Gallagher- now living in Grand Forks). He became the president and manager of the Park River Milling Company with J.D. Robertson as secretary and treasurer.

On June 19, 1912 Ella Middendorf was married to John Dunn in St. Veronica Catholic Church. They had two daughters; Mary (Mrs. J.J. O'Brien- died June 22, 1973) and Alice (Mrs. V.R. Smythe- now living in Park Rapids, Minn.).

In addition to his milling interests, Mr. Dunn was a director of the First National Bank of Park River. For years he held the office of president or secretary of the North Dakota and Northern Minnesota Millers' Club. He took an active interest in politics and served one term as mayor of Park River.

John A. Dunn died Feb. 6, 1924. Mrs. Dunn lived in the family home until her 89th birthday, when because of illness, she moved to Park Rapids, Minn. She was born December 23, 1888 and died September 30, 1979.

CLARK EATON



Clark Eaton, organizer and leader of the Park River Band.

Clark (often called "Tam") and Jessie Eaton moved to Park River in 1909. Clark was the Manager of the Farmers' Elevator there for twenty years. He was a dedicated musician and shortly after arriving in town, he started the Park River Band, which he led for twenty years. The picture accompanying this article lists some of the members as: Clark Eaton, holding the baton, possibly Mr. Lord, next Mr. Blecken, perhaps next is Paul Farup, next Joe Kowalski, then Elmer Finneseth, next is Bob Holmes and on the end Juel Marifjeren. One of the drummers is Juel Thompson.



Park River Band. Clark Eaton, holding the baton; possibly Mr. Lord, Mr. Blecken, perhaps Paul Farup, Joe Kowalski, Elmer Finneseth, Bob Holmes, Juel Marifjeren. One of the drummers is Juel Thompson.

About 1920, Clark began working with the young people of the public school, and an enthusiastic group evolved. Coming home from Band practice through a blizzard in January, 1929, he had a heart attack and died. He had taught a great many people the simple fundamentals of music. He also had an orchestra at one time.

The following is a brief article from the Hi-Eye, the Park River school paper, dated February 15, 1929:

C.S. Eaton 1870-1929

"It is not often that the Hi-Eye concerns itself with those outside its immediate family of alumni and students, but in fact,

in paying tribute to bandmaster Eaton we do not seem to be stepping outside our family, for Mr. Eaton was a loyal friend of PRHS. Passionately devoted to music, he was ready at all times to give his best to the musical interest of the school. Quiet, unobtrusive and modest, he gave his best without pay, other than the sheer joy he took in his work.

Park River High School will miss him. More especially will those to whom he ministered so faithfully remember him with sincere affection. Others may take up his work but none will serve more faithfully than he

The Hi-Eye pays its tribute to C.S. Eaton as one who gave the best that was in him to a fine cause. To the stricken family, we extend our deepest sympathy."

Clark Eaton also took part in some of the amateur theatricals which the people of the town occasionally presented.

Jessie Eaton was a tiny person, whose main interest in life was her family and working with the women of the Episcopal Church.

There were three children, Kenneth, Esther and Ruth. Kenneth attended Park River High School. He was talented as an artist and about 1919 he went to Minneapolis where he did art work for a paper. Later, he went to Sioux City, Iowa and worked for a newspaper in that city. In 1925 he returned to North Dakota long enough to marry his childhood sweetheart, Rose Wick. They moved to Des Moines, Iowa where Kenneth was artist for the Des Moines Register until his death in 1941. Kenneth and Rose had two sons. One now resides in San Diego, California and the other died in 1972.

While in Park River, Kenneth played in the band and also played in an orchestra as shown in the accompanying picture.



back row: Lucille Spornitz, Paul Farup, Kenneth Eaton, Melvin Neste, Miss Gallup and a Thompson boy.

seated: Fritz Thorson, Ella Hanson and LeLand Taylor

Kenneth was also active in Boy Scouts, working under the Reverend Wallace, who was the Methodist minister.

Esther graduated from the A.C. and later went to Ames, Iowa where she graduated from the University and taught in Iowa for a few years.

After Clark Eaton died, the family moved to Des Moines, Iowa, where Kenneth and Rose were living. When Kenneth died in 1941, Jessie, Esther and Ruth went to San Diego, California. Jessie died there in 1951. Esther married Charles Waldron. She passed away in 1980.

Ruth graduated from Park River High School and Valley City State Teachers College and taught near Minot for two years. When she went to Des Moines, Iowa, she became a Chapter worker with the American National Red Cross. Upon moving to San Diego, she worked for the American National Red Cross as field director. During that time, she met and married Harvey M. Cole. Now a widow, she is kept very busy with her work as church librarian.

THE ROBERT EKLUND FAMILY HISTORY

The Eklund family was introduced to the Park River area in 1954. They moved here from Roseau, Minnesota and presently reside at Sandwood North in rural Park River.

Robert Eklund, born September 4, 1919, at Roseau, Minn., is the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Fred Eklund of Grafton. His wife, Dorothy, born July 10, 1932 at Roseau, MN is the daughter of Mildred and the late Carl Thingelstad of Roseau, MN. They have four children.

Lorelei Dawn, Park River, ND was born April 24, 1952 at Roseau, MN. Lorie married Clair (Rick) Clemetson of Park River, ND and they have three children. Roberta (Bobbie) Lea, born December 8, 1970. Carly Ann, born May 31, 1976 and Brian Michael, born October 21, 1981.

Deanna Jane, Grafton, ND was born July 7, 1954 at Greenbush, MN.

Marco Lynn, Walhalla, ND was born December 1, 1955 at Park River, ND. Marco married Tami (nee Leith) of Park River and they have one daughter, Melissa Jane, born June 9, 1981.

Susan Rae, Vandenburg AFB, CA was born September 8, 1958 at Rugby, ND. Susan married Sgt. Bobby Farr Gentry, Jr. and they have two sons, Bobby Farr III, born July 28, 1981 and Brett Vernon, born June 23, 1983.

The children of Robert and Dorothy all graduated from Walsh County Agriculture School.

From 1956 to 1964, Robert was employed by the H. E. Everson Co. at Rugby, ND. In the spring of 1964 he was transferred to Park River to open and manage the H. E. Everson Co. store. After 11 years of service with the company, he decided he wanted to try some other field. Circumstances and opportunities led him to specialize in his present business, Bo-Mar Ent.

The Eklund family are members of Our Saviours Lutheran Church. Robert is an active member of the Commercial Club and Lions Club of Park River.

LOUIS EVENSON FAMILY

Louis Arnold Evenson was born June 27, 1924 near Brocket, N.D. He was the son of Enoch Evenson and Elvina Olsen Bakken who immigrated from Oslo, Norway. He was one of fourteen children. The children are Clara Wischer (deceased), Olaf Evenson of Grand Forks, Perry Evenson of Southam, N.D.; Arthur Evenson of Brocket; Mabel Olson (deceased), Oscar Evenson of Paulsbo, WA, Ralph Evenson (killed during WWII), Elmer Evenson of Paulsbo, WA, John Evenson of Minneapolis, Minn., Ellen Wischer of Marshall, Minn., and Alice Ruth Kerchaert of Minneota, Minn. Two children died in infancy.

He attended Cleveland rural school. He joined the Army in 1942, and served in Germany until wounded.

On May 19, 1949, he married Margaret Mary Herda, born Sept. 19, 1922. She is the daughter of Joseph Herda and Albina Bina who farmed near Brocket. Margaret has four brothers: Floyd Herda of Devils Lake, N.D., Frank Herda of Devils Lake, N.D., John



Louie Evenson Family

Herda (deceased), and Joe Herda of Orange City, IA, and two sisters, Florence Peterson of Mesa, AZ and Albina Evenson of Minneapolis, Minn. She attended Hope rural school.

They moved to Park River that same year where Louis worked on the Homme Dam construction.

They have two daughters, Lila Jean, born December 7, 1948 and Karen Lee, born January 9, 1950. Lila married Richard Wynne of Grand Forks on June 30, 1970. They have two daughters, Laura Jean, born December 15, 1971, and Renee Ann, born September 6, 1976. They now live in Lincoln, Nebraska, where Richard is employed as a chef.

Karen married Gary Lynn Johnson, the son of Arthur J. and Sophia Johnson of Park River, on February 8, 1970. At that time, Gary was in the army stationed at Fort Lewis, Washington. They moved back to Park River in 1973. Gary is a general contractor and Karen works for Polar Communications. They have a son, Travis Joseph, who was born October 6, 1978.

Louis is presently employed by Ellingson Gravel and Construction and Margaret is employed by Park River Potato Company.

HANS A. EVERSON



Hans A. Everson family, seated: Hans A. Everson, George, Nettie standing: Bernard and Clebert

Hans A. Everson and wife, Ignettie, with their children: George, Bernard, Clebert and Nellie, came to the Park River area in 1899, traveling by covered wagon from their homestead near the Missouri River in South Dakota. They settled on a farm two miles west of Park River on the river's edge.

Bernard C. Everson married Gina Fjeld on Sept. 11, 1915. Six children were born to this union; Clayton, Earl, Bernice, Jean, Velores and Clarence, who resides in the family home.

Everson was engaged in a grocery store business from 1912 to 1928.

FRANK FALTER



Frank Falter Family. Philip, Paul and Mamie. Seated: Frank and Mary.

Frank Falter originally came from Germany and with his wife, Mary (Ripple) Falter homesteaded 160 acres one and a half miles west of Park River in 1878.

They built a log house close to the river. They came here from Columbus, Ohio, where they had met and married. Frank had been a brewmeister in Ohio.

They had three children, Paul, Mamie and Philip.

Paul married Margaret Poole, who had come to the Park River area in the late 1800's with her parents Michale and Bridgett Poole, from Perth, Ontario. They had two children, Olive and Harold.

Mamie married Henry Staven and resided in Park River her entire life.

Philip married Emma Bates, daughter of Henry and Emma Bates. Philip had a jewelry store and watch repair business in Park River for several years. They moved to Walla Walla, Washington in 1942 and remained there. Philip and Emma had four sons, Lawrence, Dick, Jack and Jim.

HENRY STAVEN-MAMIE FALTER

Mamie Falter was born August 1, 1891 to Frank and Mary (Ripple) Falter. She was a life long resident of the Park River Community.

Mamie was a seamstress. She would often stay at the homes of families while she sewed garments for the ladies of the household, housedresses, aprons and also dressy clothes. They would usually have her sew enough to last them most of the year. In later years, she did alterations and repairs on all kinds of



Henry and Mamie (Falter) Staven

clothing, men's as well as ladies', at her home.

She married Henry Staven on November 23, 1924. He was the son of Iver and Andrina Staven. Henry grew up in the area of St. Peter's Church between Edinburg and Adams. He was a veteran of World War I, and a devoted member of the American Legion and V.F.W.

The Henry Staven family had no children.

HAROLD FALTER

Harold Falter was born to Paul and Margaret (Poole) Falter on April 3, 1911, at Viking, Alberta, Canada. He came to the United States in 1921.

His parents farmed the Frank Falter farm 1¼ miles west of Park River until Paul's death in 1926. Margaret then moved into town with the two children, Olive and Harold. Margaret died in 1933. Olive married Adolph Unger and they lived in Britton, South Dakota. Olive died in 1965.

Harold Falter and Agnes Kotaska were married April 11, 1939. "Baldy" tended bar for E. R. Landsborough for a couple of years. They moved to Muskegon, Michigan for a time and later to Portland, Oregon, where he worked as a welder in the shipyards. They came back to Park River and purchased the Nickolay Bar, which Harold operated for 17 years. In 1965, they bought the building formerly housing Sam Ebbson's tailor shop. They had a children's wear store there until 1968, when they decided to retire. Neome Larson purchased the building for her cafe. They sold the bar business and the building housing it to Gerald Dobmeier.

The Harold Falters' had five children born to them; Rosemary, Margaret, Patrick, Mark and Teresa.

FINNESETH FAMILY

Christen L. Finneseth was born on June 9, 1856, in Fountain, Minn. He came to Grafton via a team of horses in 1881. He had a homestead 5 or 6 miles west of Park River. He first worked in a hardware store which was owned by John "Joe" Monson, during which time he met and married Joe's sister, Anna Monson, on July 7, 1882, in Grand Forks, Dakota Territory.

Anna Monson came with her parents from Cottonwood County, Minnesota by train to Wilmar, Minnesota, driving with horses to Grafton, Dakota Territory, where they lived one year. This was in 1880.



Christian L. Finneseth family

Their first child, Lawrence, was born on the homestead, after which Mr. Finneseth moved his family into Garfield and lived upstairs over the hardware store which he operated, in addition to the Post Office. In the summer of 1884, the railroad came into the area, and Mr. Finneseth again moved his family, this time into Park River. There he operated the first store in that community. In addition to his hardware store, he also operated a lumberyard. He was instrumental in helping with the laying out of the City Park and many other things necessary to the starting of a new town.

During this time before the railroad came to Park River, the farmers took their grain to Grand Forks by wagon. These wagons brought back merchandise for the store. The most sought after items being stoves for the settlers as well as nails and barbed wire.

He later went into the mercantile business. From 1898 until 1942, his store operated in the large brick building on the East side of the main street, and still stands, even though it was in the big fire of 1901. Christen Finneseth died in 1922.

The greater part of his life he was a storekeeper- the first hardware stores in Garfield (1883) and in Park River (1884). He also operated the post office in Garfield. He operated a general mercantile store in Park River beginning in 1898. It was kept in continuous operation by the family until 1942, being run after his death by his son, Lawrence, and daughter, Ida. Mr. Finneseth was also Director of the early First National Bank in Park River.

He was a member of the Lutheran Church. He was a charter member and on the committee to build and locate the first church in Park River.

His hobbies were to read a great deal, and enjoyed visiting with old friends. He liked to travel, and winters were spent in California and Mexico.

He died in 1922 in Long Beach, California, and is buried in the family plot in Park River. His wife, Anna, his daughter Ida and son, Elmer, are there too.

Anna Monson Finneseth, was born August 10, 1861, in Jackson, Minnesota. The railroad depot was built where the home had been previously.

In 1862 news came that the Indians were coming south. The news was brought by a German fleeing the area to the settlers at church services.

The government placed a few soldiers in the vicinity of Jackson and some settlers returned a few cabins were still standing. They were the first to make a permanent settlement after the Indian massacres of 1862. Anna's family was in this group. She was a

survivor of the Indian massacres of the Sioux War of August 1862. It lasted a week and was the most noteworthy incident of its kind in American History.

It was an exposed frontier, almost in the heart of Indian country and settlers were unfamiliar with Indian warfare. They had little communication such as telegraph and stagecoach lines. Method of travel was by oxen for those fortunate enough to own them.

Anna's father, Andrew Monson, enlisted in 1861 in Mankato, Minnesota. He traveled from there by steamboat up the Mississippi River to Fort Snelling in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He fought in the Civil War with the Iowa Cavalry until he was wounded. He had returned to his family prior to the massacres. He was moved in an oxen cart with a mattress in it which served as an ambulance.

PIONEER MOTHER, MRS. ANNA MONSON FINNESETH



Pioneer Mother; Anna Monson Finneseth

Miss Anna Monson came with her parents from Cottonwood County, Minnesota by train to Wilmar, Minn., driving with horses to Grafton, Dakota Territory, where they lived one year. This was in 1880. The family moved to Garfield which was six miles west of Park River. Here they had a hardware store and Post Office. She stayed there two years and during this time she married Christian L. Finneseth and they moved to Park River.

Mrs. Finneseth was the third lady to make her home in Park River. She stated that on one morning seven foundations were laid in Park River, five on main street and two on the side street. The foundations were made of logs with a framework structure.

The first crop that was harvested was done by the man who sold the town site. It was a very heavy crop and was never threshed, being left in the shocks all winter. In the spring the gophers were fat and of a good size from feasting on the grain all winter.

Mrs. Finneseth was in Park River when the first train came here. This was the end of the line between Park River and Larimore.

Mrs. Finneseth is the mother of five children, one son Elmer

passing away in early manhood. The other children were: Lawrence, Ida, Myrtle and Gladys. Gladys is the only one living in 1983.

JOE LAWRENCE FINNESETH

Joe Lawrence Finneseth was born to Christian and Anna Finneseth in April 1883, Garfield Dakota Territory. He went to school at Park River High School. He married Marie Austin in St. Paul, Minn. He was a sales clerk in his father's store and eventually became the owner and manager. He later worked for Dr. Scholl's products in Portland, Oregon.

His main interests were music, sports, hunting and interested in civic affairs. He helped organize parades, celebrations, floats, and played in the band. He was also a member of the Fire Department.

Joe Lawrence Finneseth and his wife Marie had one daughter, Margaret. Mr. Finneseth died Dec. 8, 1968.

Ida Blanche Finneseth, daughter of Christian and Anna Finneseth, was born June 27, 1885. She attended the Park River schools and was a member of the Lutheran Church. She never married and worked at the family store as a salesperson until she retired to California. She was a member of the P.E.O. Sisterhood, Rebekah Lodge and the Luther League. She moved to California in 1942 and died there in 1973.

Ida Finneseth and her mother, Anna, lived in the house at 513 Code Avenue South, (now owned by Phyllis Cowger) while they lived in Park River and Joe Lawrence Finneseth and his family lived in the house next door to the south.

IVAH MYRTLE FINNESETH

Myrtle Finneseth was born June 17, 1891, the second daughter of Christian and Anna Finneseth. She attended the Park River Schools and also attended business college in Grand Forks. She married David Mills and lived in Park River until they moved to California. She was the mother of four children, Mark, Harriett, Marjory and Robert.

Mr. Mills was also raised in the Park River area and attended the Park River Schools. He was owner and manager of the Ford garage in Park River. The son of Robert and Esther (Hunter) Mills.

Mr. and Mrs. Mills were active in the community affairs. Mrs. Mills was a member of P.E.O. Sisterhood, and enjoyed needlework, cooking, reading, and traveling. They were members of the Lutheran Church. They moved to California in 1936 and Mr. Mills died in early 1937. Myrtle Mills enjoyed life and her family until July 1982.

GLADYS MAE FINNESETH

Gladys Mae was born to Christian and Anna Finneseth June 7, 1899. Gladys was educated in the Park River schools, Long Beach Healds College and the University of North Dakota. She taught one year in Medina as a physical education and commercial teacher, one year as Principal in the consolidated school of Orr. She had a cart in the summer and a sled in the winter that was pulled by her pet goat, "Nannie."

Gladys Finneseth married Oliver Moore, M.D. in Crookston, Minn. in 1921. They moved to California in 1922.

Educated in the Park River schools she was interested in horses, sports and especially basketball. She coached basketball teams while teaching in Dakota for two years.

Dr. and Mrs. Moore raised three children: Donovan Moore, Kathleen Sehr and Anita Jeremiah.

OSCAR ELMER FINNESETH

The second son of Christian and Anna Finneseth, Oscar Elmer, was born September 30, 1887. He attended the Park River schools and after graduation worked in the store as a sales clerk. He attended the Lutheran Church, played in the Park River City Band and was in the Park River Volunteer Fire Department. He was never married and died in 1916.

MELVIN AND HEDVIG FJELD

Melvin and Hedvig Fjeld were married September 6, 1917. Hedvig was the daughter of Alfred and Anna Lindell of rural Park River. She was born March 15, 1896 in Golden Township. Melvin passed away November 13, 1965 at the age of 71 years. After Melvin's death, Hedvig moved to Park River and lived in an apartment until 1976 when she took up residency at the Good Samaritan Center.

Hedvig was a graduate of the Walsh County Agricultural School and attended Mayville College. She taught school at Bisbee before getting married. They had one son, Kenneth, who passed away June 18, 1972.

KENNETH FJELD FAMILY

Kenneth Adrian Lindell Fjeld was born May 12, 1918 to Melvin and Hedvig Fjeld of rural Park River, at his parents' home in Golden Township. He was baptized and confirmed in the St. Peter Lutheran Church of rural Edinburg, N.D. and received his elementary education in the Garfield School. He was a member of the Golden Valley Church, and then joined the Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in Park River. Kenneth farmed with his father. He owned a fine collection of arrowheads and Indian artifacts. He received recognition by the State Historical Society on this and information given by him was published in their book. Kenneth died June 18, 1972.

He was married to Eleanor Violet Ingulsrud of Park River on October 18, 1944. Eleanor was born February 24, 1925, near Milton, N.D. She was a daughter of Ben and Amanda Ingulsrud of Park River. She was baptized, confirmed and married at Hitterdahl Church. Eleanor graduated from W.C.A.S. Park River in 1942. In 1960 she began working for Johnson Store, Floyd's Department Store, where she is presently employed, only under new management now. From 1967 to 1970, she opened up a fashion shop known as Fjeld's Fashions. In 1970, she sold out and went back to work for Johnson Stores. Kenneth and Eleanor were members of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church of Park River.

To them were born four children; Mark Kenneth, Marsha Ellen, Jonathon Shane and Teresa Holly.

Mark was born November 16, 1948 at Grafton. He graduated from W.C.A.S. and attended one year at UND Grand Forks. He served six years in the Army National Guard. In 1970, he began employment at Polar Telephone where he is presently employed. He has received recognition for his oil paintings, taxidermy and wood carvings. His drawings were used on the deer and mountain sheep hunting proclamation in 1979. Outdoor Life Magazine has also published his drawings of wildlife. He married Jana Clemens on May 4, 1974. She is the daughter of Gilmen and Jeanette Clemens of Park River. She graduated from W.C.A.S. They have two sons, Ryan Tyler, born May 8, 1975 and Rory Kyler, born July 3, 1978. They live in Park River and are members of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church.

Marsha Fjeld was born June 7, 1950 at Grafton. She graduated from WCAS. She worked as a secretary and assistant at the Park River Veterinary Clinic until her marriage to Earl Axvig of Adams. Earl is the son of Joe and Irene Axvig. Earl and Marsha farmed at Adams until 1982, where they raised Registered Angus Cattle and grain farmed. They have one son, Matthew Jon, born April 9, 1971; a daughter, Michelle Renae, born Dec. 5, 1974, and a daughter, Sally Jo, born Nov. 16, 1975. Marsha's hobbies are riding and training horses and hunting small and big game. She has poems published in the book, "Great Poems of the Western World." In 1982, they moved to Hobson, Montana, and are both employed on the Basin Angus Ranch.

Jonathan Fjeld was born July 6, 1955 at Grafton. He graduated from W.C.A.S. and attended one year at Bottineau College. He is trained as a plumber. He owns a fine collection of arrowheads and does oil paintings also sketching and sign painting.

Teresa Fjeld was born October 10, 1957 at Grafton and graduated from W.C.A.S. She married Timothy Gire on November 6, 1976. Timothy is the son of Bob and Allice Gire of Grafton. They make their home in Park River. Teresa was employed as a secretary for a few years for Farmers Union Insurance and Dahl Construction until the birth of their son, Andrew Christpohr, on November 24, 1980, in Grafton. Teresa also has poems published in the book "Poems of the Western World" and enjoys sewing and outdoor activities. She presently is employed at the ASCS office in Park River and Tim is employed by Burlington Northern Railroad. They are members of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church.

THE FORD FAMILY



David and Mary (McIvor) Ford



David and Jennie (Robb) Ford

David Ford was born near Forfor, Scotland, July 10, 1841. He enlisted in the Scotch Fusileer Guards when he was 19 and came with the regiment to Canada to safeguard the British interests in 1861. He purchased his discharge in 1863.

He married Mary McIvor in 1865. She was born in Caithness-shire, Scotland, to a family of eleven children and was the first of them to venture across the Atlantic. It was in London, Ont. where she met and married David Ford. Six of their seven children were born there- Annie (Catherwood), Ena (Craig), Craff (McConnell) Alex, Jessie (Parke), Etta (Porter). Their youngest son and namesake was born June 2, 1882, in Kensington Township, Walsh County, where the family moved in 1880. They lived in a log house built in the barnyard of the David Ford farm until they erected the house that is still standing on the farmstead. Mr. and Mrs. Ford moved to Park River in 1911 to the

house now owned by Alice Jorgenson at 308 5th Street West. They both died in 1926.

David Ford married Janet (Jennie) Robb in 1911 and moved to the Ford farm. They had eight children- Muriel (McCauley), David, Kenneth, Alex, Glen, Mary (Larson), Harlan and Edith (Bjerke). David died in 1959 and Jennie in 1953.

The farm is still owned by David Ford but is the home of Wilbur and Muriel McCauley, who moved there in 1982. They are planning a Ford reunion on July 1, 1984.



Ford family and spouses

ROBB FAMILY



Fred Robb family

top row: David, Jennie, Edith, Margaret, Bill
front: Agnes, Fred, Mary, Jessie

Fred Robb was born in Clinton, Ontario and came to Kensington Township in 1880. In 1881, he returned to Ontario and married Jessie Broadfoot. They returned to Kensington Township and made their home. They had seven children- Margaret (Shaw), Janet (Jennie Ford), David, William, Agnes (Smith), Edith (Watson) and Mary (Haugen Watson). Mr. Robb died in 1908. Mrs. Robb moved to Park River to make her home and she died in 1939. Mary is the only living one of the family and is a resident of the Good Samaritan Center.

ALEX AND IONE FORD

Alex Ford was born in 1919 on the farm of his parents, David and Jenny Ford. He attended grade school in a one-room rural school in Kensington Township and high school at the Walsh County Agricultural School in Park River. After two years of College at North Dakota State University, he enlisted in the Army and spent four years, four months and four days in World War II serving in Ireland, Africa and Italy where he was wounded and received the Purple Heart.

Alex farmed and was a rural mail carrier for 33 years.

In 1948, he married Ione Erickson who was Home Economics instructor at the Walsh County Agricultural School for four years.

Ione graduated from Starkweather High School, furthered her education at Valley City State Teachers College, and graduated from N.D.S.U. in Fargo. She taught Home Economics at Elgin, Park River, Hoople and Petersburg.

Ione's parents were Geline and Anton Erickson.

Alex and Ione have three children Jane, Trudy and Tom. All three attended grade school and high school in Park River.

Jane graduated as a registered nurse from St. Luke's Hospital in Fargo where she was employed until her marriage to Curt Brownlee, an accountant for Melroe, at Gwinner, N.D. At present they are living at Lidgerwood, N.D., and Jane is employed at the Breckenridge Hospital in Minnesota. They have a daughter, Erin.

Trudy graduated from the University of North Dakota in Special Education. She taught at Cooperstown, N.D. and Minneapolis, Minn. She married Dean Engebretson who graduated from Trinity College in Chicago. They are living in San Jose, California where Dean is assistant pastor and Youth director at the Evangelical Free Church. Trudy and Dean have one son, Adam.

Tom graduated from NDSU in Fargo with a degree in Agricultural Economics. He married Pam Hankey, daughter of Paul and Joan Hankey. She graduated from Wahpeton School of Science as a Legal Secretary. They live in Devils Lake where Tom is associated with the Federal Land Bank and Pam is employed in the Continental Telephone Company.

Alex and Ione are members of the Federated Church and have served on the Governing board, been Treasurer, taught Sunday School and Ione is active in the Women's Fellowship of the Church.

CASSIMIER GATES AND MARY BRUCE GATES

Cassimier Gates was born in Harriston, Ontario, March 1, 1873. He was the third son of a family of 13 children. His parents were Peter and Janet Lothian Gates. At the age of 17, he came to Walsh County.

He married Mary Bruce, daughter of Alexander and Flora Gillespie Bruce, on December 15, 1897. For the first four years they farmed east of Park River. Then they moved into Park River where Mr. Gates purchased a dray line which he operated until 1927.

Mr. and Mrs. Gates were members of the Presbyterian Church and he was a Mason. Mrs. Gates was a member of Eastern Star and Rebekah. After his retirement, they continued to live in Park River. They had two children, Clifford, now deceased, and Mrs. M.O. (Florence) Johnson of Park River. There are two grandsons, Clayton Gates of Seattle, Washington and Rossford O. Johnson of Park River.



Cassimier and Mary Bruce Gates

ALBERT AND DOROTHY GILLESPIE FAMILY



Albert and Dorothy Gillespie

Albert John Gillespie was born at Park River on April 9, 1914 the son of Archie F. and Agnes (Storey) Gillespie. He graduated from the Walsh County Agricultural School. Albert was an active member of the 4-H Livestock Judging Team. In 1934 after winning first place at the State Contest they went on to Chicago and placed second at the Little International Livestock Exposition. Team members were Delwin Liddle, Kenneth Ford and Albert Gillespie and their coach was M.H. McDonald.

In 1939 Albert went to Molar Barber College in Fargo, graduating in 1940. He was then employed in Cavalier, for a short time before returning to farming. He was drafted into the Army on Oct. 10, 1941.

September 14, 1942, he was married to Dorothy Lewis at Reno, Nev. She was born December 23, 1918 in Glasgow, Mont., to

William and Hazel (Ramsey) Lewis, coming to Park River in 1919. She graduated from the Walsh County Agricultural School and attended Union Commercial College. After working in Grand Forks for two years she went to California where she was employed as a spot welder in a defense factory.

Following Albert's discharge from the service they returned to Park River where Albert farmed until 1956 when he started driving a school bus and doing carpenter work. He was a 4-H leader for 25 years.

Dorothy worked for the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Office for 21 years and is presently employed as bookkeeper for the Park River Veterinary Clinic.

They are parents of four sons, John Albert, David Archie, Kenneth William and Richard Allen, who passed away in 1945.

The Gillespies make their home in Park River where they own and operate the "Spring Street Campsite".

JOHN(JACK) AND LINDA GILLESPIE



Linda and Jack Gillespie



**Jack Gillespie family
seated: Susan, Kelly, Michelle**

Standing: Dean, Kurtis

John Albert Gillespie was born July 25, 1943 in Grafton, N.D. He attended school in Park River. His hobby is raising and training horses. Jack (as he is known to everyone) is leader for the Rough Riders 4-H Club and past President of the Walsh County Saddle Club. He is employed at the Park River Lumber Company.

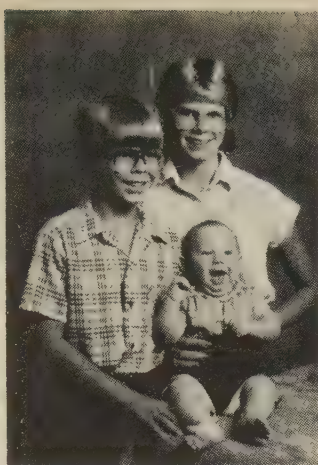
On June 1, 1963 he married Linda Lindell. She was born in Grafton, on July 18, 1945. Linda attended grade school in Park River, high school in Bemidji, Minn., and Bernel's Hairstyling College at Grand Forks. She is employed at Shirleys' Beauty Shop. Her hobbies are horseback riding, camping, waterskiing, and cooking for her family. Jack and Linda are the parents of five children; Kurtis John, born June 1, 1966; Michelle Renae, born August 16, 1967; Susan Jane born Nov. 5, 1969; Kelly Ann born Jan. 9, 1972 and Dean Allen, born Nov. 27, 1972.

DAVID ARCHIE AND CHERYL GILLESPIE

David Archie Gillespie was born May 31, 1947 in Grafton, N.D. He attended schools in Park River graduating from the Park River High School. David was active in 4-H and the Walsh County Saddle Club. Following graduation he attended the School of Forestry, Bottineau, N.D. before entering the army where he was stationed in Germany. He married Ingrid Henderson, Fairdale. They had two children, Robin Leigh, born June 20, 1969 (in Germany) and David Bradley born August 24, 1971. Following



David and Cheryl Gillespie



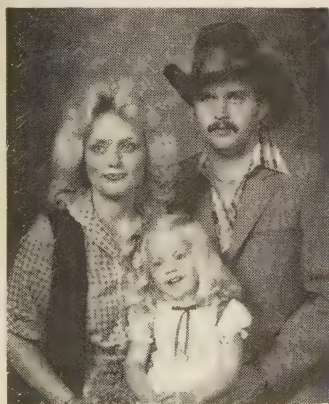
Bradley, Robin and Brett Gillespie

David's discharge from the Army they lived in Grand Forks where he worked for Acme Electric.

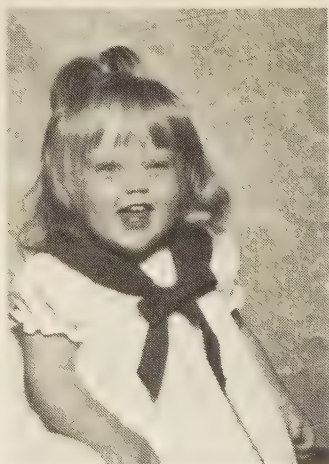
Acme Electric opened a shop in Bismarck and David transferred to the Bismarck shop in 1977. David was divorced and on June 25, 1977 was married to Cheryl Peterson of Washburn, N.D. Cheryl Peterson was born August 15, 1953 to Roger and Helen Peterson. She graduated from Washburn High School in 1971, the University of North Dakota in 1975 with a BS, Home Economics Education. Cheryl is currently employed as Food Production Supervisor, St. Alexius Medical Center, Bismarck, N.D.

David and Cheryl have one son, Brett Peterson, born April 5, 1983.

KENNETH AND MARCIA GILLESPIE



Marcia, Kenneth and Mariah Gillespie



Bevin Lindsey Gillespie

Kenneth William Gillespie was born August 17, 1950. He attended schools in Park River. After high school he enrolled at Lake Region Junior College in Devils Lake and majored in Business Administration. In 1970 he was drafted into the U.S. Army where he served in Europe for two years.

In 1974 he married Marcia Johnson, daughter of Erland and Hazel Johnson of Fordville, N.D. Ken and Marcia are the parents of two daughters, Mariah Brianne, born April 20, 1979 and Bevin Linsey, born May 28, 1982.

Ken has worked at Service Office Specialties in Grafton for nine years, as a sales manager. Marcia has attended the University of North Dakota. She is presently employed as a Real Estate Agent for Johnson Real Estate in Grafton and also works part time in the Health Service Center at the Grafton State

School. In their spare time the Gillespies enjoy horseback riding, camping and being involved in Community Theatre Groups.

ROBERT F. GILLESPIE



John and Sarah (Ferguson) Gillespie

Robert F. Gillespie was born June 25, 1886 to John and Sarah (Ferguson) Gillespie in Harriston, Ontario, Canada. He came to Walsh County in 1888. In 1911 he was married to Jennie Nimmo Frame. Jennie came from Scotland a year before her marriage. They were parents of one daughter, Nellie, born in 1912. In 1913 Jennie died.

Robert married Pearl Grand McLean in 1918 and to this union one son, William, was born. "Bill" died in San Francisco in 1976 at the age of 57.

Nellie attended schools in Park River marrying David T. Parke and making her home in Glasgow, Montana. They have three children, Janet Parke, Glasgow, MT., Dr. Charles Parke, Tacoma, Wash., and John Parke, Billings, MT. Also three grandchildren. Nellie (a widow) continues to make her home in Glasgow.

Robert farmed east of Park River for a number of years. After moving to Park River in the early 1920's he worked in the creamery and Harris's Recreation Center. He passed away in January of 1950.

HENRY AND RUBY GREEN

Ruby (Thompson) Green was born in Vesta Township, Walsh County, N.D., the daughter of John M. and Lillian (Carlson) Thompson. Her mother died in 1919 and her father later married Emelia Craft. Ruby attended school in Vesta Township until the family moved to Park River in the "dirty 30's". She attended high school at the WCAS in Park River, and one year at Union Business College in Grand Forks. Ruby worked at the Arness Cafe and the Soil Conservation Service in Park River, for the Social Security Administration in Washington, D.C., Bismarck, N.D., and Sioux City, Iowa, and briefly at the Santa Maria Air Force Base in California during World War II, and also for the late Dr. F.C. Weed in Park River. She married Henry Green of Wilton, N.D. in 1941.

Henry's parents were Harry and Letitia Green who came to Canada from England, and then to the United States. Each of their three sons was born in a different country, George in England, Daniel in Canada and Henry in the United States.



Henry and Ruby Green

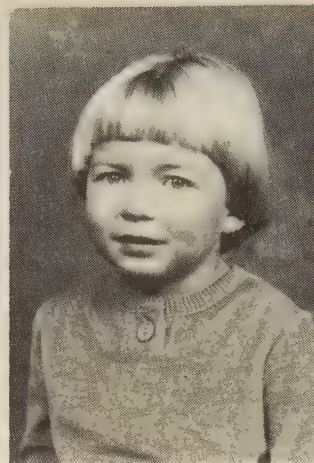
Letitia Green died in 1917, and Henry's father and brothers are now also deceased. After graduating from high school, Henry joined the Civilian Conservation Corps and was stationed at Knife River, Minn., Park River, N.D., and Odell Lake, Oregon. He then lived in the San Francisco area for several years, and returned to Bismarck, N.D. in 1940, where he worked for the Piggly Wiggly stores until he was inducted into the Army in June 1942. He served in both Germany and Japan. After his discharge in 1946, he worked in a bakery at Sioux City, Iowa. Henry and Ruby returned to Park River in 1947, and Henry worked at the Park River Bakery and for H.D. Long and Son, Park River Potato Co., and Dahl Construction. He is presently employed by Polar Communications, and Ruby by Lorene Whitesides Larson. They are members of the Federated Church of Park River. Henry is a member of the choir, and has served on the Governing Board; Ruby has been the Sunday School Secretary and Church Treasurer; Henry has also served as Chaplain of the Paul Farup American Legion Post since 1954, and was a member of the Park River Volunteer Fire Department for ten years. Henry's hobbies include gardening and woodworking. Both Henry and Ruby are avid readers.



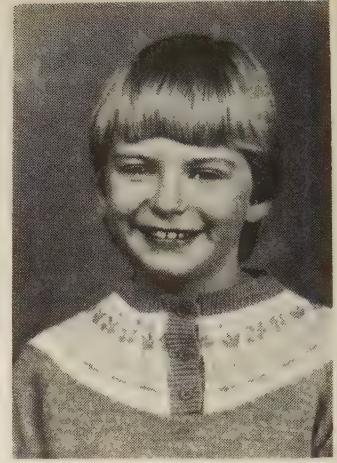
Jane, Henry and Carissa (3 months)



Jenna Lea Louise Green



Megan Jane Green



Carissa Anne Green

Henry and Ruby Green have one son, Henry Jr. Henry Jr. graduated from the WCAS in 1965, and from the University of North Dakota in 1969. After graduation he served in the U.S. Army, and on completion of basic training at Ft. Lewis, Washington, was stationed at the Army Hospital in El Paso, Texas; he later went to Germany where he participated in setting up the first halfway house for military personnel. After his discharge, he married the former Jane Daley of Park River, and returned to UND where he received his Master's Degree in guidance and counseling. Henry and Jane have three daughters-Carissa Ann, 11, Megan Jane, 6 and Jenna Lea, 1½, and live in Grand Forks.

Ruby has one sister, Helen, who is married to Clint Berg, formerly of the Hoople area, and they now reside in San Jose, CA.

DR. MORITZ HALLDORSSON

Dr. Moritz Halldorsson was born in Rykjavik, Iceland in 1854. At 20 he entered the University of Copenhagen, Denmark and graduated with degrees in both medicine and engineering. He married a Danish girl and practiced in Copenhagen for several years where his two oldest children were born, Birgitte and Halldor.

In 1891 he immigrated to the U.S. At Duluth he heard of the Icelandic settlement at Gardar and he settled in Park River. His wife and children followed the next year.

He had a large practice both in Walsh and Pembina Counties. His degree in engineering was a great assistance in helping the farmers properly locate their wells, placement of barns, etc. He was a keen diagnostician. He was invited to join the Mayo Clinic which he declined because it was too far away from his beloved Icelandic patients and friends.

Three more children completed the family, Johan, Julius and Anna.

In the summer he traveled by horse and buggy and in the winter by sleigh and horses. He never was one to refuse to go out into the country any time. It was rough going in the winter but he was a very welcome sight at many a farm home. It was his habit to fall asleep the minute he got settled in the sleigh. One winter night, he had a relief driver who had fortified himself too well with whiskey against the cold drive. The doctor awakened an hour later and they were driving in circles around the park block. The air was blue for awhile but the ride continued without further incident. Dr. Halldorson died in 1911.



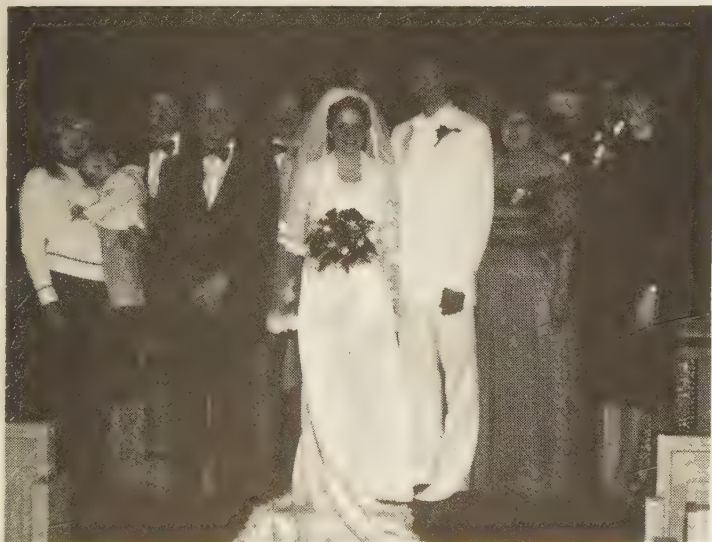
The family of Dr. Moritz Haldorsson. One of the pioneer doctors for Park River and a large surrounding area.

"Early Residents"

FRED HULTSTRAND "HISTORY IN PICTURES"

North Dakota Institute for Regional Studies,
NDSU, Fargo, N.D. 58105

VERNON C. AND DOLLY HALVERSON



Vernon C. Halverson family, back row: Russ, Dean, Duane and Jamie. front row: Gail, Justin, Vernon, Jean, Paul, Dolly and Monica

Mr. and Mrs. Vernon C. Halverson have lived in the Park River area their entire lives. Vernon, from Lankin, N.D., is the son of Mabel Halverson of Park River and the late Charles Halverson. Clarice (Dolly) is the daughter of Alice Gestson and the late Joe Gestson of Edinburg.

Vernon retired from the ASCS (Agricultural Stabilization Conservation Service) on February 28, 1983, after having been employed there for 38 years. He was executive director at the time of his retirement. Both Vern and Dolly have been active in community affairs in Park River, especially in the American Legion.

The Halverson's have four sons, Russell, Duane, Paul and Dean.

Russell, who is married to the former Gail Hangsleben of East Grand Forks, Minn., have a son, Justin Russell, born November 18, 1981. They live in East Grand Forks, Minn. Both Russell and Gail attended UND in Grand Forks. Russ graduated in 1973 with a B.A. degree and taught school in Salome, Arizona, until 1980 when he began farming with his father-in-law, Gust Hangsleben, in the East Grand Forks-Mentor, Minn., area.

Duane is married to the former Monica Burger (daughter of Everett and Angeline Burger) of Park River. They have two daughters, Jamie Lynn, born Sept. 16, 1980 and Lisa Marie, born July 3, 1983. Both Duane and Monica graduated from UND. Duane in 1975 with a B.S. degree. Duane and Monica are working for Boeing in Seattle, Wash.

Paul is married to Jean Sobolik of Pisek, N.D. and they live in Park River. Paul, a 1981 graduate of UND, with a B.S. degree, has been teaching in the Lankin-Fordville Public School. Jean graduated from AVTI in Thief River Falls, Minn., in 1981 and is a secretary at the Walsh County Bank in Grafton, N.D.

Dean, who will graduate from UND in 1984, is majoring in Business Management. Dean also is the Coach of the Park River American Legion Baseball team in Park River during the summer.

ADELE HANKEY

Adele Hankey, better known as "Dell" was born and raised on a farm four and one-half miles northeast of Park River. A single girl, she lives with her folks, Leonard (Butch) and Jessie Hankey.

Her first years of schooling were at Bruce School, District No. 118 in Fertile Township of Walsh County. She graduated from Walsh County Agricultural School (WCAS) in Park River in 1943. She was hired as a sales clerk for the Bures meat market by John Bures and late Maude Bures. Later the place was named Bures Fairway. When Bures' retired, she was hired by the late Elmer Argetsinger, who owned the Variety Store in Park River and which was later owned by Glen Cudmore, who sold out to Wayne Jenson, who owns it now under the management of Robert A. Thomson of Cavalier, N.D. She still works at the Variety and has for the past 20 years.

She has written a weekly column of recipes for the Grafton Record for the past eleven years and has now published a cookbook called "Dabble Along with Dell's Favorites." For the past five years, she has written "Wild Game" recipes for the Dakota County Magazine at Garrison, N.D.

She has two brothers, L.R. (Bart) Hankey, a North Dakota seed and potato inspector for the state and Paul Hankey, who owns the Alibi Bar in Park River. One sister, Lucille (Pud) who is married to Wallace L. Thompson of rural Park River.

L. R. BART HANKEY FAMILY



L.R. "Bart" Hankey family: (L-R): Bob, Irene, Susan, Anne, Bart and grandson Blake Hankey.

L.R. "Bart" Hankey was born November 16, 1924 in Grafton, N.D. the son of L.J. "Butch" Hankey and Jessie Woods Hankey. He has one brother, Paul, and two sisters, Mrs. Wallace (Lucille) Thompson and Adele Hankey, all of Park River. He attended Bruce School in rural Park River and graduated from Park River High School (then WCAS) in 1942.

He married Irene Bena of Park River on June 20, 1951 in St. Mary's Catholic Church of Park River.

Irene Bena Hankey was born October 9, 1925 in Grafton, the oldest of five daughters born to John F. Bena and Blanche Jarus Bena. Her four sisters are Mrs. Gid (Lori) Klein, Rochester, Minn., Mrs. Ernest (Dorothy) Thompson, Park River; Mrs. James R. (Miki) Hayden, Crystal Lake, IL, and Mrs. William (JoAnne) Pierce, Canton, CT.

Irene graduated from Park River High School in 1943 and was employed in Chicago, Ill., as a secretary at Globe Oil and Refining Co. and the Chicago Crime Commission. Due to the illness of her mother she returned to Park River and was later employed as a bookkeeper at Park River Potato Company until her marriage in 1951.

Bart farmed in Park River, ND, and Red Lake Falls, MN, and since 1968 has been a potato grade and certified seed grain inspector with the North Dakota State Seed Department.

Both Bart and Irene have been active in community affairs. Bart served as president of the Park River Volunteer Fire Department, was president and treasurer of St. Mary's Men's Club, Grand Knight of Knights of Columbus Council No. 5055 and Faithful Navigator of 4th Degree Knights of Columbus.

Irene was the first president of Decca Federated Study Club, president and secretary of St. Ansgar's Hospital Auxiliary, president and secretary of St. Mary's Altar Society, member of Park River Library Board and a member of Court Bishop Mulloy No. 1851 Catholic Daughters of America.

They are the parents of three children: Robert "Bob" Hankey was born July 10, 1952 in Red Lake Falls, Minn. He graduated from Park River High School in 1970 where he was active in sports and was the recipient in that same year of the Richard Orsund Award. He graduated from North Dakota State University, Fargo, and the University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point, WI with a M.A. Degree in Audiology. Bob resides in Grand Forks, N.D. where he is assistant director of the Audiology Department at the Rehabilitation Hospital and Grand Forks Clinic.

Susan Hankey was born October 5, 1953 in Red Lake Falls, Minn. She graduated from Park River High School in 1971. She attended the University of North Dakota, Alverno College, Milwaukee, WI and graduated from Concordia College in Moorhead, Minn., with a B.A. Degree in Music Education. She received her M.A. Degree in Choral Music and Conducting from Arizona State University in Tempe, AZ. Susan is liturgy coordinator and music director for St. Joseph's Catholic School and Parish in Moorhead, Minn.

Anne Hankey was born March 17, 1955 in Red Lake Falls, Minn. She graduated from Park River High School in 1973. She attended the University of North Dakota and is presently employed as parish secretary at Holy Family Catholic Church in Grand Forks.

JOHN AND HANNAH HANSON



John and Hannah Hanson - 1898

John Hanson, born in Alesund, Norway, came to the United States as a very young man. He worked in the lumber mills in Washington for some time, then went to Mayville where he became a "watch-maker". While there, he met Hannah Evinrud Teslow, who also came from Norway and they were married April 9, 1898. Hannah Evinrud was born in Brandbu, Hadeland. After their first daughter, Thora, was born, they moved to Park River, in 1900, where John Hanson became associated with Tom Catherwood as a partner in a jewelry store located in the Huseth Block, now a part of the Coast to Coast store.

John and Hannah were active members of the Lutheran Church, John as a choir member and Hannah in the Ladies Aid.

There were two more children born, Erling Harold, who died at the age of two and finally Ella, who operates Ella's Beauty Shop in Park River.

John Hanson died at the age of 33 and Hannah, after a trip to Norway with her children, Thora and Ella, carried on making a living with a boarding and rooming house and eventually making herself quite famous as a cook at Chike O'Brien's Cafe. Mrs. Hanson died in 1946.



**Samuel and Thora (Hanson)
Knutson - 1929**



**Dennis and Kenneth (Bing)
Knutson - 1938**

Thora was married to Samuel Knutson, April 29, 1929. They had two sons, Kenneth (Bing) and Dennis. Kenneth married Monica Schlenk in June, 1952; and they have two sons, Kevin and Keith.

Dennis married Monika Zeiher, on June 10, 1966. They also have two sons, Michael and Andrew.

THEODORE AND MINNIE HANSON



**Theodore Hanson family: (L-R): Minnie, Theodore, Julianne,
David and Barbara**

Theodore (Ted) Hanson was born Oct. 27, 1914, in the Hoople, N.D. area, the son of Gullick and Annie Hanson. Ted was one of eleven children. The Hansons farmed in the Park River and Adams areas.

Mrs. Theodore (Minnie) Hanson was born November 19, 1915, in rural Park River, the oldest daughter of Axel and Bertha Larson. She has one brother, Alton O. Larson of Park River, and one sister, Mrs. Jewel Oaks, of Minneapolis, Minn.

Ted started at an early age helping his father on the farm, and helping his mother with the milking and separating, they usually had ten milk cows. He also worked on his father's threshing

machine. Then he worked for farmers in the Adams, Edinburg and Park River areas.

Ted spent the year of 1934 in the Civilian Conservation Corps., in Carrington, N.D., and Carlton, Minn. This involved work in building dams and in the forestry service.

Ted and Minnie Larson were married on December 5, 1938.

In 1941, Ted started working for John Deere and Meagher Brothers farms, where he worked until 1948.

In 1948, Ted started his employment with the Park River Potato Company, then owned by Meagher, Meagher and Kenney. This move was to become a major factor in his life. He was grading foreman for the first few years when the company only handled dry graded potatoes. Ted recalls when potatoes were picked by hand and pickers had to be recruited from throughout the Midwest. Among the first in the Red River Valley, Park River Potato Co., switched to mechanical harvesting in 1950, bringing an end to a back-breaking era.

In the fall of 1950, the Company built one of the first wash plants in Park River where Ted started as plant manager. Before long he was promoted to plant superintendent and was in charge of quality control for the wash plant. In 1957 Ted became part owner of the Company with J.C. Kenney. In 1969, Park River Potato Co. was sold to ten area people with Ted being one of the new group of partners. Ted remained as plant superintendent until his retirement in December, 1979.

Minnie worked in several homes in Park River in the early thirties, and in the surrounding area. In August, 1937, she started to work at the Arness Cafe in Park River, where she did cooking and baking for nearly four years. She also worked as clerk in the Park River Variety Store for some time. In July, 1941, Minnie started to work at the Boys' Dormitory in Park River, as cook and kitchen and dining room manager, where she worked until May, 1946. At times there were forty boys at the dormitory, under the National Youth Administration Program. In the fall of 1942, Minnie canned 650 quarts of fruits and vegetables, and several large crocks of sauerkraut. The boys had to take shifts on K.P., and helped peel fruits and vegetables.

Minnie's hobby is collecting recipes.

Ted and Minnie Hanson are members of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church of Park River. Ted has served on the Board of Trustees and as head usher. Minnie has taught Sunday School and served on the Board of Education, and is active in ALCW. She is a member of the Harmony Homemakers Club of Park River.

Ted is an avid hunter and fisherman. He enjoys bowling, archery and golfing and all sports.

Ted and Minnie have two children, David and Julianne.

David attended the Park River Elementary School, graduating as co-valedictorian of the class. He graduated from the Walsh County Agricultural School in 1964, as valedictorian of the class.

David attended the University of North Dakota at Grand Forks. He was a member of the Phi Eta Sigma freshmen's scholastic honorary, the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, and Sigma Tau engineering honor society. He received numerous scholarships while attending UND, and graduated as Valedictorian of the class in June, 1968, with a B.S. degree in chemical engineering. Immediately thereafter, he accepted employment with Dupont in Wilmington, Delaware, where he was part of a task force investigating automobile air pollution, especially the lead emissions resulting from the lead antiknock compounds, then prevalent in gasoline.

In 1970 Hanson returned to school at the University of Delaware to do graduate work in chemical engineering. While at graduate school, he met Barbara Vadakin from Harrington, Delaware,

and they were married on March 25, 1972. After David obtained his Master's Degree in chemical engineering in 1972, the Hansons moved to San Diego, CA., where David had accepted a position with Gulf General Atomic, a division of Gulf Oil Company.

During the past 11 years at GA, David has done research work in support of the development of the High-Temperature Gas-Cooled Reactor (HTGR). The HGTR is an advanced type of nuclear power reactor which uses helium gas as the coolant rather than the water used in the current generation of light-water reactors. David is now Principal Engineer at GA, and his specialty is predicting the release of fission products from the nuclear reactor core.

Barbara has been employed for the past 10 years at the University of California at San Diego. She is an Administrative Assistant in the Applied Mechanics and Engineering Sciences Department, specializing in computerized word processing, typing and typesetting, and technical illustration. She has also been involved in developing training materials and teaching word processing classes for her department and for the University Personnel Department.

During 1982, David was assigned to a German national laboratory in Juelich, West Germany, as part of a personnel exchange program. The Hansons soon found that living in a foreign country was more complicated than taking a vacation there. This assignment provided an opportunity for extensive travel.

A business trip to Sweden in June 1982, facilitated a tour of southern Scandinavia. After traveling from West Germany to Oslo by ferry, they visited the major tourist attractions in the Norwegian capital and then motored to Bergen. During the return trip to Sweden, they spent two days with Hanson kin in Notodden, Norway. Despite language problems, David was profoundly impressed by this meeting with his Norwegian relatives. Especially memorable was a tour of the Heddal stave church, the largest in Norway, where many family members have been baptized, confirmed or married.

In October 1982, the Hansons vacationed in Yugoslavia, visiting the village North of Belgrade, where Barbara's grandparents had lived before immigrating to America in 1902. Afterwards they traveled along the Dalmation coast, enjoying Dubrovnik, Split and Plitvice Lakes National Park. After a weekend in Venice, Italy, they returned to Germany.

The Hanson's saved their best trip for the last. Before returning to San Diego in March, 1983, they traveled to Kenya in East Africa for a photo safari in the national parks and game reserves to see the great animals in the wild.

Julianne attended the Walsh County Agricultural School and graduated as an honor student in 1972. She attended the University of North Dakota at Grand Forks, graduating in May 1976, with a BA degree in Psychology and a BA degree in French. She received several scholarships while attending UND. In the summer of 1974, she received a scholarship to travel in France, where she studied at the Sorbonne.

Julianne is employed at the University of California, San Diego, School of Medicine, Pulmonary Division, where she is an Administrative Assistant. She assists in the solicitation and computer fiscal accounting of contract and grant funds, for medical research in pulmonary disease.

J. BERT AND BEULAH HARDY

J. Bert Hardy, a native of Crystal, N.D., married Beulah Dalton of Hastings, Minn., on December 28, 1922. They lived in Park River all of their married life.



J. Bert and Beulah Hardy

Bert and Beulah have been active in community affairs; Bert was a charter member of the Paul Farup Post No. 147, served as commander for two years, Boy Scouts, City Council for 16 years, Park Board and Santa Claus for many years for the Legion. After he retired he was able to do volunteer sewing for St. Ansgar's Hospital Auxiliary.

Beulah Dalton Hardy was active in American Legion Auxiliary and served as child welfare chairman for 20 years. She was a Girl Scout leader, active in St. Mary's Catholic Church, P.E.O. Sisterhood and Book and Discussion Club.

The Hardys have four children; Dalton Scot Hardy and Ada Hardy had three children. William is married and the father of two children, Heather and Christopher. Robert is not married. Janice is married to Victor Cadice and they have two children, John and Maria. Dalton passed away in July 1982.

James Deane Hardy is married to Joan and they have five children, Mary Sue, Patrick, Michael, Jimmy Bert and Joseph. They live in Excelsior, Minn.

Kay Hardy Brown married to Jack Brown. They had five children, Michael, Veronica, Tad, Katheryn and Bill. Two grandchildren, Jesse and John. They live in Edina, Minn. Kay passed away in December of 1981.

Mary Keitha Hardy is married to Richard O'Toole. They live on a farm near Crystal, N.D. They have five children, Jaime, Brian, Marihelen, Margaret and Barbara. Jaime is married and has one child, Meghann. Brian is married to Sara Daley of Park River.

Bert Hardy passed away in 1973. Beulah Hardy is now a resident of the Good Samaritan Center in Park River, N.D.

HAROLD S. AND EDITH HARRIS

Both Harold S. and Edith Harris are Park River natives. Harold's parents were Lloyd H. and Alma G. Harris; and Edith is a daughter of Lars and Emma Larson.

After graduation from the Walsh County Agricultural School, Harold went to work for the Coca-Cola Bottling Company in Grand Forks. Edith attended the Interstate Business College in Fargo and upon completion of studies, worked for a collection agency in Fargo.

The couple were married in October, 1941, at the Zion Lutheran Church, rural Hoople. They lived in Grand Forks until Harold



Edith and Harold S. Harris

was drafted into the service in February, 1942. He returned in October, 1946.

He then took over the Recreation Parlor in Park River that his mother, Alma G. Harris, had operated after the death of Lloyd Harris. Harold has been on medical retirement since 1968. Edith recently retired after almost 24 years of work with the USDA, Farmers Home Administration Office in Park River.

Harold is a member of the American Legion, the Walsh County Historical Society, and is active in the local Senior Citizens organization. Edith is a member of the Rebekah Lodge and Tri-County Legal Secretaries. They are members of the Federated Church in Park River.

The couple have two children, Harold S. Harris, Jr. is married to Lynda Montague, also a Park River native; they live in Littleton, CO., and are the parents of three children, Leslie Ann, Jeffrey and Douglas. Harold has a private dental practice. Ann Lorene Harris is married to Orell D. Schmitz of Williston. The family lives in Bismarck, N.D. where Orell has a law practice. They are parents of three children, Kara, Todd and Bradley.

LLOYD H. AND ALMA G. HARRIS



Lloyd H. and Alma G. Harris - 1939

Lloyd Harris, a lifelong resident of Park River, was a son of Moses and Elizabeth Harris, pioneers of this area, and was born on May 18, 1894.

On Oct. 25, 1916, he was married to Alma Thompson, daughter of T.T. Thompson and Jennie Thompson, also pioneers of Park River. They farmed for several years and in 1928 moved into

Park River where they operated a recreation parlor.

Lloyd was a member of the Golden Valley Masonic Lodge in Park River, and of the Royal Arch Masons of Grafton. He was an Odd Fellow and was a past grand of the local IOOF Lodge.

Alma G. Harris was the organist for the Federated Church for many years. She was active in the Eastern Star and Rebekahs. She was a past state assembly president of the Rebekahs. She composed and compiled the music book that is now the official music, used internationally, in the Rebekah Lodge. She was born on February 13, 1898 and died in February, 1961. Lloyd died in August, 1941. They are buried in the Memorial Park Cemetery at Park River.

They have two children, **Harold S. Harris**, who is living in Park River and a daughter, Jean, who is Mrs. William Vickers, and lives in San Lorenzo, California. There are four grandchildren; Harold S. Harris, Jr., and Ann Lorene Schmitz, as well as Margaret Yashu and Stephen Vickers.

MOSES AND ELIZABETH HARRIS



Moses and Elizabeth Harris

Moses Harris was born in Devonshire, England on April 17, 1846. He, along with his father and five brothers and sisters, left England for Ontario, Canada in 1857. They resided in Darlington, Ontario for several years. There he married Elizabeth McMurray (born April 5, 1848) at Pickering, Ontario. Two sons were born in Ontario: Fred (1880-1945) and Clayton (1881-1932). On the 17th of January, 1882 they and their two sons, along with two sisters, migrated to Kensington, Dakota Territory. Moses and Elizabeth filed on a homestead one mile north and one mile west of Park River. Two more sons were born: Leslie (1886-1961) and Lloyd (1894-1941). They remained on the farm until 1908 when they retired and moved into Park River.

They were life-long members of the Methodist Church.

Elizabeth died on May 28, 1909 and Moses died on August 13, 1915.

OLE E. HASLE

Ole E. Hasle was born in Reinli, Valdres, Norway on May 6, 1860. Sarah Aamot, was born in Grand Meadow, Mn., on January 25, 1865.

Ole came to America in 1878 and located for a time in Grand Meadow, working for relatives and others. He emigrated to North Dakota in 1882, wanting to find some land and build a home for himself. He finally located in Pleasant Valley and built a sod shanty. He worked at various jobs until 1884 when he arrived in

Park River where he found work. In the early part of 1887 he went back to Grand Meadow and he and Sarah Aamot were married there on May 31, 1887 and came back to Park River. He started working for Finneseth Hardware and in 1896, he acquired a part interest in the business. About a year later, he bought the store. In 1897, Ole built a new home. In 1900, Park River had a disastrous fire which destroyed most of the business section. He built a new brick store and continued in business for about 20 years, until 1911 when he sold out and retired in Park River. At one time, Mrs. Hasle had a millinery store in Park River.

Sarah and Ole had ten children, two died in infancy.

Inger Hasle Reinertson died in 1957; Thora Hasle DeLaVier died in 1975; Alma Hasle Hilleboe died in 1969; Eva Hasle Worden died in 1981; Brenda Hasle Robbins died in 1982 and Alette Hasle Willingham died in 1971.

Two children still survive, Arnold who lives in Camantis, Calif., and Grace Hasle Dickerson who lives in Billings, Montana.

Sarah Hasle died April 11, 1929 in Park River. Ole E. Hasle, after the death of his wife, lived on in his home for a number of years, then spent some time with daughter, Inger, in Grand Forks, then spent his remaining years with his son, Arnold in Oxnard, California, where he passed away November 1, 1950. He is buried in Park River beside his wife.

LEO AND GEORGIA HENNESSEY



Leo Hennessey family

Leo Hennessey was born and raised on the family farm in Ops Township, an area where a number of Irish families settled.

Leo worked on the family farm from his youth until World War I broke out. In 1917, he enlisted and served till wars end. After the war, Leo, along with thousands of returning soldiers came home looking for work. He found employment with the railroad companies.

On July 5, 1937, Leo and Georgia (Cicha) were married at St. Luke's Catholic Church, Veseleyville. Georgia, the daughter of Joseph and Eleanora Cicha was born and raised in the Veseleyville area.

In 1938, Leo and Georgia moved to Park River. He was employed by the Great Northern Railway until his retirement in 1967. Leo passed away in 1978. Georgia continues to live in Park River.

Park River, a prosperous farming community relied upon its strong, active and involved citizenry to develop into a marketing hub of Walsh County. During this period, Leo and Georgia were active members in a variety of community organizations. Their

prime energies were poured into raising a family, Diane (Mrs. Henry Sobolik) of Forest River, N.D.; Dan of Minneapolis, Minn., and Dena (Mrs. Stephen Larson) of Park River. Leo and Georgia are grandparents of eight grandchildren.

HERWICK FAMILY



Mr. and Mrs. Eleseus Herwick, standing: Alice and Edwin

Mr. and Mrs. Eleseus Herwick had a family of eight children, six children died in infancy or early childhood. One daughter, Alice, passed away while in her senior year of nurse's training at the Deaconess Hospital in Grafton. A son, Edwin, entered the teaching profession and spent 44 years in teaching and public school administration in North Dakota and Minnesota. Edwin and his wife are now living in Glyndon, Minn.

FRED HULTSTRAND



(L-R): Fred, Donna Jean, Eva. standing: Victor

Fred Hultstrand was born on a farm in the Fairdale vicinity in 1888. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Anders Hultstrand had emigrated from Sweden and were among the first pioneers in this

area. Indians, prairie fires, and crude tools for farming were vivid memories for Fred. He learned the three R's in a country school house and completed his early education in the School of "Hard Knocks", as railroader, logger, steam engineer and thresher, farmer, carpenter and blacksmith. Watching a neighbor develop a glass plate in his home, fascinated young Hultstrand and he became a "photo bug", and after working all day on the farm, he would spend his evenings developing and processing old glass photographic plates in the cellar of his sod birthplace. During the winter of 1909 he apprenticed himself to a photographer, John McCarthy of Milton, N.D. and gained invaluable experience. Next he went to Wallace, Idaho and worked in a large studio there.

His work consisted of photographing the interiors of the lead, zinc, and silver mines, using the old, slow, glass plates and the dangerous flash powder. In the winter of 1910 he returned to North Dakota, leaving there to enroll in the Illinois College of Photography and graduating in 1911. In 1914 he enrolled in the Chicago Art Institute. In 1916 he came to Park River and established his studio there and operated it until his death in 1968—a period of 52 years.

Mr. Hultstrand was married to Evangeline Baker of Osnabrock, N.D. in 1917 and they established their home in Park River. Two children, a son Victor, and a daughter Donna Jean, were born to the Hultstrands. Some of the light went out of the life of Fred and Eva Hultstrand when their son Victor lost his life in an air crash in Virginia in 1956.

Victor had made a brilliant scholastic record all through his high school and college training, and then went into the Navy Air Force, having attained the rank of Commander prior to his death. Victor was married to Doris Sandiford of Pensacola, Florida, and the couple had two sons, Robert and Sandy. The family made their home in Pensacola.

Donna Jean Hultstrand is a graduate of Mayville State Teachers College and taught for several years before her marriage to Nolan Verwest of rural Finley. The Verwests have two daughters, Loree and Lisa. They live on a farm near Finley.

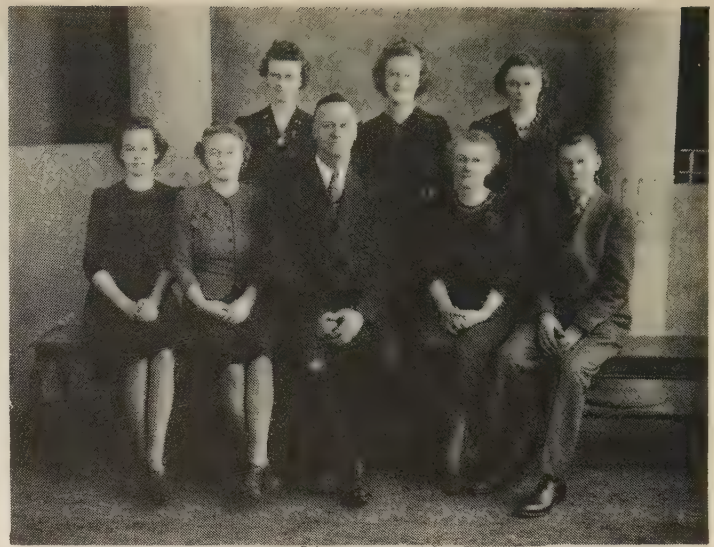
Besides his devotion to his professional work, Fred Hultstrand found time to do his bit for community affairs also. He was a member of the Park River School Board for 13 years, serving as president for 5 years; he was a member of the City Council and also Mayor for 8 years. He was a Past Noble Grand Odd Fellow, a Mason, and past president of the Park River Commercial Club.

In his chosen field of work—photography, he received several honors. The Professional Photographers of America, Inc., presented him with a bronze plaque in recognition of his outstanding achievements and contributions to the profession (which was one of the highest honors awarded a photographer). He was chosen "Photographer of the Year" by the North Dakota Photographers Association. He was president of this Association for several years.

He maintained the studio in Park River until the time of his death, completing 52 years of service to the people of Park River and a very large surrounding area. His famous collection "History in Pictures" is a fitting memorial to a dedicated man.

BEN INGULSRUD FAMILY

Ben Ingulsrud was born February 8, 1884, to Ole and Margit (Haslekaas) Ingulsrud in Telemarken, Norway. When he was one-year-old, he and his three older brothers, Big Ole, Little Ole and Lars emigrated to America with their parents and homesteaded in Osford Township, Cavalier County, in 1885. In



Ben Ingulsrud family - 1942

Seated (L-R): Dorothy Axvig, Bethel Cudmore, Ben, Amanda, and Bud (Olger). Standing (L-R): Margaret Cummings, Eleanor Fjeld and Laura Shafer.

1888, a daughter, Annie, was born. Their mother, Margit, who was born also in Norway in 1842, contacted typhoid fever and died in 1889. Six weeks later, their father, who was born in 1835 died of the same disease, which they contacted from helping neighbors that were sick. The children were then cared for by the Martin Hanson family who rented the land.

Tragedy again struck the family in 1906, when Annie, at the age of 18, was shot to death by a young man from Fairdale while she was working in a cafe there. The boys, too, had to get out on their own and received very little schooling.

Ben married Mary Louis Berntson, a daughter of Nels and Anne (Larson) Berntson. They lived on a farm near Bladworth, Sask., Canada, for a few years. While there they had twins, George and Anna, who were born prematurely and lived just a short time.

Their next move was to Derrick, N.D., where a daughter Laura Miranda, was born on February 2, 1912. Mrs. Laura Shafer now resides in the Belmont Terrace Nursing Home in Bremerton, WA. In 1915, Ben moved his family to the Ingulsrud farm in Osford Township and another daughter, Margaret Amanda, was born on November 23, 1916. She is now Mrs. Ray Cummings and lives in Carmichael, Calif. She had four children, Patsy, Mary, Dennis and Neal; and three grandchildren. Mother Mary passed away at a Grand Forks Hospital in February of 1919. Laura and Margaret were then cared for in the Grandpa and Grandma Berntson home.

March 10, 1920, Ben and Amanda May Berntson were married at her parents home in Silvesta Township by Rev. P.O. Laurhammer. Amanda was also the daughter of Nels and Anne Berntson and was born January 21, 1887, in Silvesta Township. She received her elementary education in Silvesta School District No. 82. Her ambition was to become a school teacher. She enrolled twice at Mayville State Teachers College and each time she was called home to care for her mother who became ill, ending her dream of ever becoming a teacher.

After Ben and Amanda married, Laura and Margaret moved back with them to the Ingulsrud homestead in Osford Township. To this union four children were born, Dorothy Marie, born December 14, 1920—she married Kenneth Axvig and they have three sons, Keith Odin, Dale Kenneth and David Bruce. They

have six grandchildren and 3 step-grandchildren. Bethel Adeline was born March 28, 1922 and married Erwin Cudmore and have four children, Adele Erna Momerak, Lee Erwin, Larry Duane Cynthia (Cyndie) Caye Perkerewicz. They have 10 grandchildren. Eleanor Violet, born February 24, 1925, and married Kenneth Fjeld. They have four children, Mark Kenneth, Marsha Ellen Axvig, Jonathan Shane and Teresa Gire. They have six grandchildren. Olger Neil (Bud) was born Aug. 29, 1926 and has three sons, Clark Neil, Warren Lee and Rodger Dean. They have four grandchildren.

Ben and Amanda were active in the Hitterdal Luterhan Free Church, rural Milton as long as they were farming. Amanda was church organist for many years and both of them held offices in the various areas of the church work. They were also active in community development, Ben being treasurer of the Osford School District No. 4 for many years. He was also foreman of a WPA crew that built dams in Cavalier County during Franklin Delano Roosevelt's Administration as President of the United States. Ben and Amanda were very patriotic and took the family to Devils Lake to see and hear President Roosevelt speak. We all appreciated this opportunity and thrilled to see the President of the United States in person.

In 1942 they left the farm and took up residency in Park River. They purchased a home on 5th St. West, the present site of Mrs. Victor Sturlaugson's new home. Ben was employed at Skjerven's Garage and Amanda, at Sam Ebbson's Tailor Shop and the Service Cleaners.

In January, 1944, Ben began working in the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard at Bremerton, WA. Amanda followed in May and also worked in the Navy Yard. They returned to Park River in 1945. Ben then worked in the maintenance department at WCAS until he was injured falling downstairs. When he recovered, he sold Raleigh Products in the Park River area for a couple years until his health failed. He was hospitalized at the Grafton Deaconess Hospital and passed away there on Oct. 28, 1950 and was buried in the Hitterdal Cemetery. Rev. P.O. Laurhammer officiated.

After working in the Midget Cafe in Park River, as a baker for about three years, Amanda purchased the business from Mrs. Carl Mattson in 1948 and she retired December 31, 1965. She was hospitalized the following January in Grafton a few weeks and spent the rest of the winter with her daughter, Bethel. She then lived in her home until she was again hospitalized in the fall of 1967 and died at the Grafton Deaconess Hospital on Oct. 5, 1967. She had joined the Bethel Free Lutheran in Grafton that was built in 1964. Her funeral service was the first one held in this new church. Amanda's nephew, Rev. Gordon Berntson, officiated at the family service at the Overbye Funeral Home in Park River and assisted Rev. David Mostre with the service at Bethel Free. She was laid to rest beside Ben in the Hitterdal Cemetery.

NORMAN A. AND FERN ISAACSON

Norman A. Isaacson was born September 25, 1915, at Rugby, N.D., the youngest of three children born to August S. Isaacson and Nora (Olson) Isaacson. August S. Isaacson was born in Harstad, Norway, and was a Spanish American War Veteran. August was well-known throughout North Dakota as a salesman for Bergseth Fish Company and later as an agent for Lutheran Brotherhood Insurance. Nora (Olson) Isaacson was born in Brooklyn, New York, where her family was engaged in the shipbuilding industry. Norman has a brother, S. Chester Isaacson, of Vancouver, Wash., and a sister, Mrs. Clayton A. (Mabel) Hanson of Seattle.

Norman Isaacson is a graduate of Rugby High School where he excelled in tennis and baseball. He was graduated from high school in 1933 and went to work in a grocery store. He was inducted into the Army on April 24, 1941, and served overseas as a combat infantryman radio operator for two and one-half years in the Algeria-French Morocco, Tunisia, Naples-Foggia, Rome-Arno and North Apennines battles and campaigns. He was wounded on November 14, 1943 and again on September 18, 1944. Norman A. Isaacson is the recipient of the Distinguished Unit Citation Badge, Bronze Star Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Purple Heart, Oak Leaf Cluster, European-African-Middle Eastern Theater Service Medal, American Defense Service Medal and five overseas Service bars. He was honorably discharged on June 29, 1945.

Norman was employed for thirty-three years by the Great Northern Railway Company which later merged and became Burlington Northern Railway Company, from which he retired on June 3, 1977.

Isaacson is a member of the American Legion, Disabled American Veterans, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Retired Railway Workers Association, and a former member of the Park River Fire Department, Commercial Club, Hillcrest Golf Club and Bowling Associations. He now enjoys gardening and hunting.

Norman A. Isaacson and Fern M. (Landsborough) Isaacson were married at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Park River on June 14, 1947. They have no children.

Fern M. Landsborough was born April 13, 1920, at Park River, N.D. the oldest of three daughters born to Elmer R. Landsborough and Mabel E. Landsborough whose heritages are shown on Page 697, Volume Two of Walsh Heritage, Walsh County, North Dakota. She has two sisters, Mrs. Marvin (Geraldine F.) Sorenson of Park River, N.D., and Mrs. Virginia M. Whalen of Omaha, Nebraska.

Fern is a graduate of Walsh County Agricultural and Training School at Park River, attended Union Commercial College, Grand Forks, and Long Beach Polytechnical School, Long Beach, Calif. While in California, she was employed by a law firm and by Douglas Air Craft Company.

After returning to North Dakota due to her father's illness, she assisted him in managing his business enterprises. Her father's business was closed in November of 1955. Fern was then employed as a legal secretary and legal assistant to Elton W. Ringsak who established the Ringsak, Webb, Rice & Metelmann Law Firm in Grafton, N.D. Fern retired from her job there on July 1, 1979 after twenty-three years of service. She is presently the duly-elected Walsh County Public Administrator, a position she has held for sixteen years.

Mrs. Isaacson is a past president of the Hillcrest Country Club Auxiliary, past treasurer of the American Legion Auxiliary; a member of St. Ansgar's Hospital Auxiliary; a member of Tri-County Legal Secretaries Association and of the National Association of Legal Assistants. She is a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church and Altar Society in Park River.

Mr. and Mrs. Norman A. Isaacson are residents of the City of Park River.

ELMER JERGENSEN

Elmer Jergenson was born February 2, 1907 at Clyde, N.D., the son of the late Knute and Mattie (Peterson) Jergenson. At the age of 5, he moved with his parents to Park River and later farmed. Then on October 19, 1942, he was inducted into the Army and served as a military policeman and heavy truck driver during World War II. He was discharged September 29, 1944 and went back to farming.



(L-R): front row: Beatrice Jergenson, Elleen Jergenson Johnson, Elmer Jergenson; back row: Audrey, John, Marlene, Gary

He married Beatrice Novak in Pisek on November 14, 1946. She was born April 7, 1915, the daughter of the late Steve and Rose (Cicha) Novak. They farmed until 1968 when they retired. Beatrice started cooking in a cookcar when she was 15 years old. The ladies in the cookcar baked their own bread, used lamps because there was no electricity. They carried water and heated it in the reservoir. Those are memories of Beatrice's younger days.

Beatrice and Elmer Jergenson purchased a home in Park River in 1955 from Glenn F. Borg. The house was built in approximately 1905. Beatrice and son John, still live in that house.

Elmer and Beatrice had five children, Audrey, the oldest daughter is married to John D. Johnson, lives in Park River and they have four children, Kristi Kae, 12; Matthew John, 7; Andy Scott, 5 and Becky Jean, 2. John, who lives in Park River; Marlene Swenson, married to Allen Swenson, lives in Minto and they have two sons, Jason Allen, 7 and Timothy John, 4. Gary, married to Shirley Jelinek from Pisek. They have one son, Carey Tyler, 5 and live on the home farm near Park River. Eileen married Richard D. Johnson. They have one son, Jeremy Dean, 6 and live close to the home farm.

Elmer and Beatrice also had twins, a boy and a girl, and one other son, David, who passed away in infancy.

Elmer was a member of the Park River American Legion. Beatrice is an active member of the St. Mary's Altar Society and Christian Mothers, American Legion Auxiliary, Hospital Auxiliary and Happy Hour Senior Citizens Club in Park River.

Elmer passed away on April 10, 1982. Elmer and Beatrice celebrated their 25th Wedding Anniversary on November 14, 1971. They were married for 36 years.

MATTIE AND KNUTE JERGENSEN

Mattie Peterson was born December 1, 1874, at Orfordville, Wisconsin. She spent her early life there. In April, 1902, she married Knute Jergenson, at Vang, N.D. The couple homesteaded at Clyde, N.D., west of Langdon and lived there until 1912, when they moved to their permanent home, a mile and a half southeast of Park River, where they farmed.

They had four sons born to them, Melvin, Elmer, Clarence and James, and three daughters, Christine, Esther and Hazel, the twins.



Mattie and Knute Jergenson

In 1958, at the age of 83, Mrs. Knute Jergenson died at her home, on New Year's Day. She had been in failing health for some time. Knute Jergenson died Nov. 7, 1955.

ALLERD O. JOHNSON FAMILY



Front row: Richard and Gail Hokenson, Allerd and Irene, Erna and Dean Meberg. Back row: Dwight, Gwen, Dewayne and Lina Johnson

Allerd Oliver Johnson, son of Peder and Laura (Flaten) Johnson, was born June 6, 1921 in Vernon Township. Allerd graduated from the country grade school District No. 97. In 1939, he graduated from the Walsh County Agricultural School in Park River. Allerd was drafted into the Army in October, 1942, serving in the European theater as a tank driver with the 10th Armored Division. He was wounded in Germany, March, 1945 and hospitalized in Paris, France for three months. Later he was awarded the Purple Heart, Bronze Star and the Battle Star. After being discharged December 31, 1945, he returned to Park River where he started his farming occupation. Allerd served several years on the Board of Directors of the Farmers Elevator, the Cenex Oil Station in Park River and on the Vernon Township Board.

On November 10, 1951, he married Irene Landsborough, daughter of Harry and Dora (Kittelson) Landsborough of rural Park River. She graduated from WCAS in 1944. Irene worked at the PMA office (now ASCS) until the time of her marriage. After the children started school, she was employed at the Park River

Clinic as medical insurance secretary for 16 years. After the clinic closed, she devotes most of her time to her cake decorating hobby.

The Johnson's have five children; DeWayne, born August 23, 1952, graduated from North Dakota State School of Science. On November 14, 1981, he married Gwen Larson, daughter of Neil and Doris Larson of rural Park River. They own and operate Johnson Electric at Northwood, N.D. Gwen is Activity Director at the Northwood Nursing Home.

Gail, born September 13, 1953, graduated from Interstate Business College of Fargo. She is a secretary at NDSU. On April 4, 1981, she married Richard Hokenson of Moorhead, Minn. He is the son of Henry and Delia Hokenson, of Detroit Lakes, Minn. He is employed by Bell Telephone Company of Fargo.

Erna, born March 12, 1956, graduated from St. Luke's School of Nursing in Fargo. On July 26, 1980, she married Dean Coulter Meberg, son of Urby and Gail Meberg of rural Park River. They have one daughter, Kelli Ruth, born April 20, 1982. Dean is engaged in farming and Erna is a nurse at St. Ansgar's Hospital in Park River.

Dwight, born December 22, 1957, graduated with honors in Agronomy from NDSU of Fargo. He is presently completing his Masters Degree in Agricultural Economics.

Lina, born June 25, 1960, attended NDSU for two years. On July 1, 1982, she graduated from St. Luke's School of Radiologic Technology. She is employed at Dakota Clinic in Fargo.

For 25 years, the Johnson's were active members of Pleasant Valley Lutheran Church. Allerd served as secretary and on the board of trustees. Irene served as president of ALCW. She taught Sunday School for many years and later became superintendent. They are now members of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in Park River.

CLIFFORD JOHNSON



Clifford and Iva (Gunderson) Johnson

Clifford and Iva (Gunderson) Johnson have lived in Park River since they were married on June 19, 1948. Clifford worked as partsman for Bateman Motors for nineteen years and manager of Lyons Auto for over 16 years.

Iva taught school in Dundee School for four years and is teaching sixth grade in the Park River Elementary School.

They have four children who are all graduates from the Park

River High School. They are Sharon, Roger, LaDonna and Lynette.

Sharon and Gerald Nelson live in Warren, Minn. They have two children, Jennifer and Scott.

Roger and Vicki Jo (Maier) are in Mukilteo, Washington. They have one son, Nathaniel Paul.

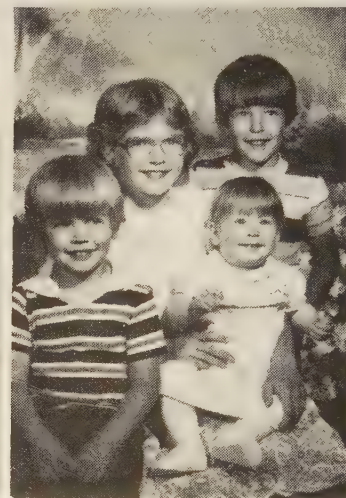
LaDonna and Warren Johnson reside in Vancouver, Washington. They have a son and daughter, Randy and Stephanie.

Lynette lives in Grand Forks and works as a physical therapist at the Rehabilitation Center.

JOHN D. JOHNSON FAMILY



Audrey and John D. Johnson



Andrew, Kristi, Matthew and Rebecca Johnson

John D. Johnson was born at Park River on November 15, 1942. He is the son of the late John (Jack) Johnson and Hilma Johnson, formerly of Park River. He has four brothers and three sisters; Lorn at Dallas, Oregon; Duane at Pengilly, Minn., Roger and David of Park River; Mrs. John (Donna) Conroy of Alpharetta, GA; Mrs. Joel (Jean) Brateng, Dallas, Oregon, Mrs. Burnell (Judy) Troftgruben of Park River.

John is a self-employed carpenter. He attended elementary and high school at Park River and College at Salem, Oregon and Wahpeton, N.D. He also served for four years in the U.S. Navy.

Audrey (Jergenson) Johnson was born at Grafton on August 6, 1947, the daughter of Beatrice Jergenson and the late Elmer Jergenson of Park River. She has two brothers, John and Gary of Park River and two sisters, Mrs. Allen (Marlene) Swenson of Minto and Mrs. Richard (Eileen) Johnson of Park River. Audrey attended the Park River Elementary and Walsh County Agricultural School of Park River and Aaker's Business College in Grand Forks. She worked at Implement Dealers' Mutual Insurance Company in Grand Forks for 3 years.

John and Audrey were married on May 6, 1967 at the St. Mary's Catholic Church in Park River. They lived at Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, Edmore and Wahpeton, N.D. before moving back to Park River in 1973. They are the parents of four children, Kristi Kae, 12 years old; Matthew John, 7; Andrew Scott, 5 and Rebecca Jean, 2.

They are members of the St. Mary's Catholic Church in Park River. John is president of the Walsh County Right-To-Life Chapter and is also affiliated with the Knights of Columbus. Audrey is a member of St. Mary's Altar Society and Christian Mothers and the St. Ansgar's Hospital Auxiliary.

LUDVIG WILLIAM JOHNSON



Ruth and Tookie Johnson

Ludvig William Johnson was born in Edmore, ND to William and Gena Johnson.

William Johnson was the son of Olaus and Maria Johnson who homesteaded north of Park River.

Ludvig, better known as Tookie, came to Park River after the death of his parents at the age of 11 and attended grade and high school in Park River. Tookie attended Minot State Teachers College before entering the Navy to serve in World War II.

After completing four years in the Navy, Tookie returned to Park River and married Ruth Setterstrom, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. G.S. Setterstrom. Rev. Setterstrom was minister of the Federated Church in Park River for seven years.

Tookie worked in the area for the H.D. Long Farm and Seed Company and then farmed for himself as a potato and grain farmer. Tookie has four sisters - Mrs. Ernest Matejcek (Ruth) of Owatonna, Minn.; Mrs. Gordon Graving (Hazel), Mankato, Minn.; Mrs. Paul Wobbe (Virginia) of Sebeka, Minn.; and Mrs. Stanley Erickson (Mildred) of Haydon Lake, Idaho.

Ruth and Tookie are the parents of three children. A son, Richard G. Johnson, Laurel, Md., married Judith Mitchell of Silver Springs, Md., and they have two children, Karen and David. Lois Jill Haakenson, Raleigh, NC., married Dr. Gary Haakenson, formerly of Bismarck, ND., and they have three children - Marc, Eric, and Kristine. Another son, Kent William Johnson, West Fargo, ND., is married to Laurie Hurtt of Hoople. Laurie's parents are Hamilton and Marilyn Hurtt.

Richard is a CPA of Prince Georges County, Md., Jill is a registered nurse and housewife, Kent works for the Goodyear Company in West Fargo. Tookie is presently retired and Ruth works for Montana-Dakota Utilities in Grafton, ND.

Tookie is a past commander of the Paul Farup Post No. 147, former City Council member; a retired fireman, member of the Golden Valley Masonic Lodge, member of the Federated Church, past president of PTA, Band Booster Club member, and is an avid sportsman and devoted golfer.

MELVIN O. AND FLORENCE JOHNSON

Melvin, the son of Oscar and Louise Johnson, was born in Fertile Township, and attended Walstad grade school and the Walsh County Agricultural School. He started farming in 1920. In 1926, he married Florence Gates. She is the daughter of Cassimier and Mary Gates. Florence attended the Park River Grade and High School and Valley City State College. She taught school in Wagner, South Dakota and Adams, North Dakota.



M.O. and Florence Gates Johnson and granddaughter Linnae.

Johnson purchased the International Harvester contract from Hanson and Bateman in 1930, and continued with his farming interest. Later he sold the implement business to Fred Silliman, but continued with his farming and potato business.

He has been active in community activities, Our Saviour's Lutheran Church Board, on City Council for eight years and mayor for twelve years. He was director of The First State Bank for twenty-five years. He was one of the original organizers of the Red River Valley Potato Growers Association. He was also county chairman for the Republican Party. He is a member of the Elks, Masons and a Shriner.

Florence is an Eastern Star member, a member of the Presbyterian Church of Park River. She served on the Library Board for several years.

Johnson's have one son, Rossford O. Johnson, three granddaughters, Dorothy Farrell, Jeanette Greff and Linnae Johnson and one grandson, Russell O. Johnson. They also have two great grandsons, Don and Dan Greff.

OSCAR JOHNSON FAMILY



Oscar and Louise Johnson family - 1983. Seated (L-R): Irene, Oscar, Elmer, Louise and Hazel. Standing (L-R): Florence, Archie, Olaf, Victor, Melvin and Cora

Oscar and Louise Johnson purchased the home on the corner of Briggs and Highway No. 17 following their retirement in 1935 from farming in Fertile Township northeast of Park River. Oscar, who was born in Wisconsin, came with his parents who homesteaded in Fertile Township in 1881. Oscar married Louise Gulbrandsen, a school teacher from Iowa who taught school in Fertile Township. In 1947 they were honored on the occasion of their 50th Wedding Anniversary.

They were the parents of nine children all of whom attended either the Park River High School or the W.C.A.S. The oldest son, Melvin (M.O.) served as mayor of Park River for twelve years from 1950-1962. Melvin who farmed in the Park River area, married Florence Gates, Park River, and became the parents of one son, Rossford. Melvin was also the owner and operator of IH Implement in Park River for sixteen years. Archie who never married was employed and served as vice president of Miller and Holms in St. Paul, Minnesota and he died in 1976. Cora married Carl Paulson, a farmer in the Hoople area, and they are the parents of three children, John, Lorraine and Norman. Victor, (V.O.) who farmed in the Park River area married Verna Lee from rural Grafton. Elmer married Margaret Wemark, Kenmare, ND, and they became the parents of one daughter, Margaret Marie. Elmer has been Supt. of Schools in Kenmare as well as Ward County Supt. and has farmed in the Park River and Kenmare areas. Irene married Bernie Legrid and they live in Moorhead, Minnesota, and they both taught school in Fargo. They are the parents of two daughters, Penny and Judy. Olaf, who never married, farmed with his brother Victor and has lived in Park River since 1935. Hazel married Ted Clairmont and they live in Fargo where they both taught school. They are the parents of Tom and Joan. Florence married Paul Duffey and they live in Riverside, California, where she also taught school. Oscar died in 1953 at the age of eighty-three and Louise died in 1967 at the age of ninety-three and both are buried at Zion Church Cemetery, rural Hoople, where they were members.

ROSSFORD JOHNSON FAMILY



L-R: Bill and Dorothy Farrell, Barbara and Russel Johnson, Marilyn and Rossford Johnson, Bob and Jeanette Greff; front: Linnae Johnson, Dan and Don Greff

Rossford and Marilyn Johnson have lived their entire lives in the Park River area where they are engaged in farming. They both attended Walsh County Agricultural School in Park River.

Rossford is a graduate of NDSU in Fargo.

Rossford's parents are Florence (Gates) and Melvin O. Johnson also of Park River, while Marilyn is a daughter of the late Peder M. and Laura (Flaten) Johnson of rural Park River.

Four children were born to the Johnson family: Dorothy and her husband, Bill Farrell, live on a farm in the Larimore, ND area, where they farm. Dorothy is a graduate of NDSU in Fargo in the field of Pharmacy and is part owner of Larimore Drug and Gift where she is employed. Bill is a graduate of UND in Grand Forks.

Jeanette and her husband, Bob Greff, and their two sons, Don, age 11 and Daniel, age 10, reside in Long Beach, Calif. Jeanette works for the school system there, while Bob is employed by Hughes Aircraft of Long Beach. Bob and Jeanette both attended NDSU in Fargo, where Bob holds a degree in Business. Sons, Don and Daniel are active in athletic events in Long Beach.

Russell and his wife, Barbara (Kjorstad) reside in Park River where Russell is in the farming business with his dad. Barbara is employed as a Lab Technologist at the Grafton State School. Both Russell and Barbara are graduates of NDSU of Fargo.

Linnae Jo is 10 years of age and attends Park River Elementary. She will be entering the 5th grade here. She has several interests, some of which are music, swimming, baton, gymnastics and athletics. Linnae and her parents spend the winter months at San Marcos, Ca., where Linnae attends Life and Light Christian School. Marilyn and Rossford Johnson are members of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church of Park River.

VICTOR O. AND VERNA JOHNSON



Victor O. and Verna Johnson

Victor O. Johnson was born in 1904 at the family farm located seven miles northeast of Park River. He is the fourth child in a family of nine children born to Oscar and Louise (Gulbrandsen) Johnson. Victor received his education in the one room school known as the Walstad School which was located in Fertile Township and the Walsh County Agricultural School in Park

River, after which he began his life-long career as a farmer by renting land from neighbors and assisting his father in the family farm operation.

In 1935 his parents retired and moved to Park River. Victor married Verna Lee of Grafton, at which time they rented and, after a few years, purchased the family farm and expanded the operation to include additional acreage in the years that followed. They were actively engaged in farming until their retirement in 1981.

Victor has been vitally interested and actively supportive of numerous community projects throughout his long career. He

has served on various boards such as the Farmers Elevator Co. of Park River, Walsh County Farm Bureau, Park River Bible Camp and Sunset Founders of Grafton.

Victor and Verna are members of Zion Lutheran Church, rural Hoople, which is located near their farm home and they have been active participants in the life of that congregation. Victor is a life long member of Zion and served as the treasurer for many years and also for several terms as the financial secretary and on various boards and committees. He is currently a member of the church council.

Verna has been church organist for fifty years and also served as choir director for many years. She is a member of the Zion ALCW and served as president several times and as treasurer for a number of years. In addition she was the pianist and has participated in the various activities of that organization.

Verna became the accompanist for the Walsh County Homemakers Chorus when it was organized in 1949. Mrs. Lynn (Bess) Williams of Grafton was the first director and it then continued for many more years under the able direction of Mrs. Agnes Dougherty Henderson of Park River. The chorus sang for numerous Walsh County Fairs and other programs in the area. Verna served on the Board of Directors of the Walsh County Rural Electric Co-op when it was organized in the late thirties (30's) to bring the first electricity to the rural areas of the county. She is a member of the Fortnightly Study Club of Park River and has been a member of the Countryside Homemakers since her marriage and is still active in that club. Verna is a former member of the Red River Organ Society of Grand Forks and was a charter member of the Rena Hanson Auxiliary and held office in the organization. In 1979 she was crowned North Dakota State Barley Queen at Osnabrock.

In 1970 Victor and Verna built a new home in Park River where they reside. Each summer they go back to live at their farm home in order to attend to the farming operation and to enjoy the real pleasures of country living.

Victor's brothers and sisters include Melvin, Archie (deceased), Elmer, Olaf, Cora, Irene, Hazel and Florence.

Verna is the daughter of the late Henry and Anne Lee of Grafton Township where she was born and raised. She was educated in rural school district No. 114 and is a graduate of Grafton High School. Verna has one sister, Irene, and two brothers, Lawrence and Herman.

MARTHA ELIZABETH JOHNSTON(GARVIN)

Martha Elizabeth, fondly known as Mattie, was born December 12th, 1878, near Cresco, Iowa to Robert and Isabelle Johnston who settled in Kensington Township on land later given by them for Park River's present cemetery. Mattie was one year old when her family, traveling with the Joe Davis Family, reached this area on New Year's Eve, 1879. She recalled that the children, despite the hazardous and bitter cold journey, sitting on grain sacks in a horse-drawn sled from Fisher's Landing to Dakota, remembered their trip as an exciting adventure. To them it was a festive occasion when a severe blizzard arose necessitating their stopover at Brown's stopping place. Even their meager accommodations in the cramped quarters of Will Davis' shack, where 19 in all resided until spring, was a lark. Toys they did not have, but made such things as dolls, wreaths, aprons, etc. from leaves and other vegetation found around their homes. They particularly loved exploring their new surroundings and watching the activities going on around them.

Later, when Jim Hill changed his mind concerning the route of his railroad, the children would stand on the ends of the logs of their cabins watching the buildings from Kensington and

Garfield being moved into Park River. Though the men often had to leave a building to return home and feed their horses, the children would be on deck early in the morning when the moving began again. Thus they also watched the first train's arrival in Park River in 1884. Her first Sunday School teacher was Mr. Percival in the Presbyterian Church, and I still have the china head of the sawdust doll given her in Sunday School. She started school at age eight in 1886 so would have been one of the first pupils in the Park River School.

Many were the tales she told of "Old Doc Livingston" as he called himself around Park River, but known to actually have been the father of J. D. Rockefeller, well known oil magnate. His name was actually William A. Rockefeller but he assumed the name of Doc. Livingston in Park River where he claimed to be a doctor and sold medicine of his own making and which was supposed to be a "cure all". Thus he was reported as a "quack doctor" with a reputation for being wild and with questionable ethics. Mattie worked for this man while still a very young girl. She picked rocks, filled grain sacks and weeded his onion fields for 25 cents a day. At one time he only gave her 10 cents and an orange. I gleaned from her that, although he drove a fine team around Park River overseeing his property, he was not too industrious and inclined to be stingy as he paid as little as possible for his help and was known to dicker with his creditors when settling up for his help's food and lodging in the fall.

Mattie's oldest sister, Maggie, married Jim Smith (brother of Dee Smith) in 1897 after having taught school in the vicinity. She died Dec. 12, 1903 at the age of 28 leaving two boys, Stanley and Willie, ages 4 and 2. Stanley never married and still resides in Minneapolis, Minn. Willie served in World War I, married and moved to Little Rock, AR., where he died in 1968. Mary, Mattie's next older sister, first married Joe King in 1895; and their only son, Roy, died in early childhood. Later she married Mike Mortenson and moved to Grenora where she died January 8th, 1950. Johnny Johnston was born July 1st, 1880, in Kensington so believe he was the first white baby born in that area. He later ran a livery stable, financed by his father, and participated in the horse racing around Park River. On December 28th, 1904 he married Helen Slichter in Breckenridge, Minnesota and moved to Canada where he passed away July 23rd, 1964, at the age of 84.

Many and varied were my Mother's experiences, which space here will not permit, and true and steadfast friends she made in abundance. She was industrious and religious, and although her life was not an easy one, she always retained her love of life and Irish wit and laughter. To know her was to love her as evidenced by the many true and loyal friends and relatives with whom she kept in constant touch. As a young lady she loved to dance, driving many miles for such an event by horse and buggy and barely returning home in time to change clothes and get to work as required.

In 1900 she worked in the Cornet Corset Factory in Jackson, Michigan. After returning to Park River, in 1903 and 1904 she accompanied her brother Johnny to his claim about 12 miles from Mohall where she cooked and kept house for him while he proved up his claim. On April 18th, 1905, she again set out from Park River, age 27, to file on her own claim near what is now Williston.

Her tar paper shanty, completely equipped and furnished, cost less than \$50.00; and here she lived alone with her dog "Rip". Neighbors were few and far between, but it's interesting to note that one was Hans Larson of Park River. She tells of walking to Williston, 50 miles away and the closest point where there was a dentist, due to a toothache. She stopped along the way at neighbors for food and lodging occasionally, but finally completed her 100 mile return trip. Lonely as such a life might

seem, she still enjoyed reading, sewing, gardening and particularly writing poetry to while away the hours and days. When neighbors dropped in they often played cards, or just "yarned" so she said. During this period she also worked in cook cars for others filing up claims, and two poems she wrote - "The Little Yellow Cart" and "Life on the C. J. Ranch" - vividly depict her life in one of these places just into Montana.

She returned again to Park River where she worked at several jobs for people in that vicinity who would remember her well. In 1909 she began her career as telephone operator at Fairdale, N.D. where the office was her home - 24 hour service, as was also the office at Lankin. Later she trained operators in telephone offices at Lankin, Larimore, Forest River, and I believe Nekoma.

Meanwhile, John Wilson Garvin was born January 5, 1886, in Bellefontaine, Ohio, to Charles and Harriet McCall Garvin. The well known scout, Kit Carson, was a brother to John's grandmother McCall it is said. At the age of seven John's father passed away, and after helping care for his 8 brothers and sisters for a time, in 1900 he started West, logging during the winters in Minnesota and working summers in the grain fields of Dakota. Here he met Mattie Johnston, and on December 10th, 1913, they were married in Grand Forks, ND. They moved to Bemidji, Minnesota, but in 1917 moved on to Crookston, Minn. as Mother's love of the prairie did not suit her for the dense jack pine, and thus they compromised. In Bemidji two girls were born - Gladys Irene (Mrs. Duane Norrie) on September 27, 1914; and Leona Lucille (Mrs. Virgil Klein) on September 8, 1915. Through many trips to Park River, Mattie's husband, fondly known as Jack, became well known and loved by all in that vicinity as he was quiet, gentle, friendly, cheerful and an interesting conversationalist. After nine wonderful years together, Jack passed away in Crookston on March 24, 1923, age 37, leaving his wife and two small girls then 7 and 8 years old. September 18, 1923, Mattie opened her small grocery store to provide for her children and still be at home, but the "Great Depression" in the 1930's finally caused her to discontinue this operation. She often told me her chief regret was that, being tied down by her store open from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., she was never able to observe her girls' accomplishments or activities. Well remembered and enjoyed by all during this period were the many occasions when relatives and friends from Park River and vicinity gathered at our home for the Crookston Winter Crop Shows. That was a time when I found it very worthwhile to eavesdrop on my giggling elders as they related numerous tales, laced with humorous personal experiences, of the "Good Old Days". From such times I learned a good deal. Mattie remained in Crookston until 1956 when she went to live with her daughter, Leona Klein, at Page, ND. When Park River celebrated their Diamond Jubilee in 1959, Leona took her Mother Mattie back to visit and attend this event which was to be one of her last and most memorable occasions.

Ironical as it may seem, due to the continued close and enjoyable associations of the Johnston and Davis descendants, it was while preparing for a gathering of these families at Devils Lake that she fell and broke her hip. Throughout the following year of suffering in hospitals and nursing homes, all around her were overwhelmed by the thoughtful attentions of her many lifelong friends and relatives, to include the second generation. I believe she set a record for receiving the most mail wherever she was. Finally, at age 83 she passed away in the Nursing Home at Ellendale, N.D., on Sept. 1, 1962. She now rests in peace beside her beloved husband Jack, and her parents, on her parental homestead in the Park River Cemetery. Right to the end she was sharp, interesting to visit with, full of humor and Irish wit, and delighted all with her many apt sayings, many of which I

still recall and use today.

At the time of her death she left her two daughters and 5 grandchildren, all of whom still live. Daughter Gladys Garvin Norrie with her two sons, Kenneth and Roger; and Leona Garvin Klein with her son John and daughters Kathleen and Valerie. Gladys lives in Sweet Home, Oregon and Leona lives in Havre, Montana at the present time (1975).

Leona's son John is named for his grandfather - John Garvin, and John's older daughter is named Martha for her great grandmother Mattie Garvin.

THE ROBERT(BOBBY) JOHNSTON FAMILY

Robert Johnston, one of Park River's first settlers, staked his claim in the Fall of 1879 on two quarters a mile east, thus adding the Irish to the Norwegian and Scotch settlement of Kensington. "Fighting Irish" they were not! Although 100 percent Irish they were described as sturdy, industrious, proud people with a love of life, full of humor and witty sayings, hospitable, gracious and much to be admired as true and faithful friends. In addition, "Bobby" added a bit of impatience, and was apparently "fleet of foot" as many tell of his walking with Joe Davis and his horses then suddenly trotting off ahead, remarking "I'll wait for no horse nor hardly the train."

The east side of Park River Cemetery, a part of grandfather's homestead, was first sold for a creamery, but finding no water, was later given to the town for a cemetery reserving 12 plots. Having died July 4th 1914, age 83, he rests in peace on his original homestead beside his wife Isabella (died April 13th 1933); daughter Martha and husband John Garvin; Isabella's sister, Agnus Riley (Mrs. John Liddle); grandson Roy King, son of daughter Mary and Joe King; and William Kristjanson, his great nephew, son of Frances Lewis and Sig Kristjanson.

Robert Johnston, born May 5th 1831 at Cornwall, Ontario, married Isabella Riley Logan in 1873, then moved near Cresco, Iowa. Isabella Riley, born October 14, 1844 near Belfast, Ireland; came to Ontario when age two; married John Logan in 1864, who died a few years later; married Robert Johnston in 1873. Their three girls were born in Iowa: Margaret Jane "Maggie" (Mrs. Jim Smith), Mary Ann (Mrs. Joe King, later Mrs. Mike Mortenson), and Martha Elizabeth "Mattie" (Mrs. John Garvin). Their son Johnny was born in Kensington July 1st 1880. Believe he was the first white baby born there. Arriving in Kensington, Maggie was four, Mary three and Mattie one year old. Robert Johnston had one sister, Nancy (Mrs. Joe Davis of Park River), and one brother Arthur. Isabella had seven sisters, one of which was Agnus Riley Liddle (Mrs. John Liddle of Park River).

In 1879, their crops ravaged by chintz bugs, and lured by dollar a bushel wheat, Robert Johnston and his brother-in-law, Joe Davis, followed Willie Davis' route to Dakota. Willie reached Kensington early that summer so had his shack built four miles west of Park River. With horse and wagon "prairie schooner" over uncharted country with no roads nor a bridge across the Red River, they miraculously reached Dakota, staked claims and returned to Fisher's Landing where their families had arrived by train from Iowa. With only bare necessities and seven small children, sitting on grain bags, none questioned the wisdom of such a journey although it was nearing Christmas, bitter cold with snow inches deep. With covered sled and horses it took a week, the men often testing drifts with long poles fearing the striking of thin ice or coulees underneath. A severe storm arising forced one stop at Browns where parental authority was exhibited. Mary Ann Davis, told to "fetch" the babies valise,

obeyed although her hands froze to the handle.

Arriving New Year's Eve, 1879 at Will Davis' shack, nineteen in all lived until spring in his small sod shack with dirt floor watered and swept until hard as cement.

Robert Johnston used oxen for breaking, farming and carrying groceries from Grand Forks. Limited entertainment consisted of family gatherings, and being a religious people, church services held in George Nicklin's home conducted by C. H. Honey, until the Presbyterian Church began in 1886 at Park River. Mail arrived by stage, and the first school was erected in 1886.

THE ANDREW KAFKA HISTORY

Andrew and his wife Anastasia and their three children, Annie, John and Mary, immigrated from Austria to America in 1886. They settled in the Veseleyville area first, and later in the Pisek area, where nine more children were born: Agnes, Barbara, Frank, Christina (Tina), Henry, twins Emma and Stella, Louie and Lucy. One son, Joe, passed away in the old country. Anastasia was born in 1857 and passed away in August 1935 at Park River. Andrew passed away in Fergus Falls, Minn., in the early part of 1936. They farmed in the Pisek area for many years. In 1913 they moved to Roosevelt, Minn., where they farmed for several years. Andrew's mother is buried in Minto, N.D., Anastasia at Pisek, and Andrew at Fergus Falls. Annie, the oldest, was born Aug. 30, 1880. She married Christ Schlenk Jan. 21, 1905. Annie worked in the cafe in Park River for many years and Christ was police chief for several years. He was also fire chief for over forty years. His son Harold was fire chief for thirty-five years. They had five children: Harold, George and Wilburt (deceased), Ivan who lives at McVillie, N.D., and Agnes who married Harvey McDowell and lives at Detroit Lakes, Minn. Christ passed away in January of 1941; Annie in March of 1941.

John was born in 1883 and married Pauline Urban. They lived in Roosevelt, Minn. and had four children: Hattie (deceased), Cecil who lives in Spokane, Wash.; John in California; and Evelyn married Roland Munger and is living in Seattle, Wash. John passed away in October, 1936. Pauline on May 14, 1970. For many years John came to North Dakota for the harvest and threshing season as did John Jr. and Cecil. Mary was born August 31, 1885. She married Albert Kotaska in October of 1905. They had three children: Jerome (deceased), Agnes married Everett Grascost and lives in Minneapolis, Minn., Martha married Rueben Johnson and also lives in Minneapolis. Mary passed away November 1, 1966 and Albert Jan. 8, 1954. Albert and Mary farmed in the Pisek area, later moving to Pisek where Albert owned and operated a blacksmith shop.

Agnes was born in 1887 and married Edward Dahlentz. They lived in Duncan, Vancouver Island, B.C. They had three children: Edward Jr., Adeline and Virginia. Agnes worked in the hotel at Park River before her marriage. She passed away in 1953 and Edward in 1949.

Barbara was born April 25, 1889. She married Tony Blasky and had four children. One passed away in infancy. Albina (deceased), Steve who lives in Grand Forks, N.D., Alice who married Clarence Hanson and lives in Bagley, Minn. Tony and Barbara farmed in the Fordville area for many years, later moving to the Inkster, N.D. area. Barbara passed away June 10, 1969 and Tony, August 27, 1961.

Frank was born April 14, 1892. He died in an accident with a team of horses Nov. 14, 1907.

Christina (Tina) was born July 8, 1894. She married Andrew Cost in 1918. They had two children: Victor (deceased), and Millie who married James Chromy. Andrew passed away in August of 1920. Christina married Joe Blasky in 1923. They had two more children: Clarence of Inkster and Henry (deceased). Tina worked in the hotel in Park River and also for the Dunn and Olson families before her marriage. Joe passed away Aug. 13, 1952 and Christina Dec. 30, 1969. Joe and Christina farmed in the Fordville area many years and later in the Inkster area.

Henry was born Nov. 8, 1896. He married Virginia Strand. They lived in St. Paul, Minn., where Henry worked for the Waldorf Paper Mills. They had four children: Deloris, Roselyn Ann, Eugene and Douglas. Henry passed away May 7, 1966 and Virginia in 1972.

Emma and Stella were twins, born March 28, 1899. Emma worked at Pual Farup's in Park River and later at Baudette, Minn. She married John Holwerda Nov. 23, 1921. They had four children: Richard and Neil who farm in the Fordville area; Jean married Donald Omdahl and lives in Fordville and Betty married Lee Robertson and lives at Grafton. John and Emma farmed in the Fordville area. John passed away Jan. 16, 1966. Emma died April 2, 1974.

Stella worked for the Bergers in Park River and later in Baudette, Minn. She married Walter Seims Nov. 24, 1920. They had four children: Walter Jr. of Cambridge, Minn.; Robert at Bemidji, Minn.; James of Williams, Minn.; and Marilyn who married Jack Northcott and lives in Yakima, Wash. Walter and Stella lived at Williams for years and Walter ran the bank. Stella passed away April 14, 1983 and Walter passed away July 30, 1983.

Louie was born June 20, 1901. He married Libby Baltazar. They had two children: Wayne lives in California and Donna in Duluth, Minn. Louie later remarried and had another daughter, Linda, who married Bob Kasse and lives in St. Paul, Minn. Louie passed away in Dec. 1980, and his wife Laura in 1982. Louie worked in the Fordville area for many years, later moved to Duluth, then to Eau Claire, Wisc., and later on to St. Paul.

Lucy, the youngest of the family, was born June 28, 1903. She married Joe Ginkel. They had four children: Karl and Herbert of Minneapolis; Gail married Bob Crawford also living in Minneapolis; and Ronald of Memphis, Tenn. He was in a car accident on 1964 and is paralyzed from the shoulder down and is doing fine. His daughter Joyce lives with him. Joe passed away Oct. 11, 1954. Lucy remarried and he passed away two years later. She then married Alvin Amundson. He passed away in 1982. The last years Lucy lived in Decorah, Iowa, and now lives in Minneapolis. She worked for the Land of Nod Mattress Co. and Miller Bag Co.

DINA KLUXDAL

Iver J. Kluxdal was born in Trondjeim, Norway, on April 13, 1870, the youngest child in a family of 4 sons and 2 daughters of John A. and Ingebjorg Kluxdal. At the age of 17, he emigrated to America with his parents, one brother and 2 sisters. They homesteaded in Todd Co. Minnesota, near Osakis. In the late 1880's, Iver emigrated to North Dakota and took up farming in Shepherd Township, Walsh County, near Lawton. In 1900 he married Karoline Larson. She died in 1905. There were no children. In early 1907, he married Dina Hamre. To this union, 7 children were born: Theodore, Albert, Dennis, Iver Norman, Ruth, Kenneth and Doris. In the late teens and early 20's, Iver



Dina (Hamre) and I.J. Kluxdal. 1907

Kluxdal served 3 terms as County Commissioner from western Walsh County. He was very active in county affairs during World War I. In 1921, he became ill with cancer and passed away in May of 1923. He is buried in the Vang Church Cemetery south of Fairdale.

Mrs. Kluxdal valiently tried to keep the farm going with the aid of her older sons, but with low prices and poor crops, she was forced to sell her quarter of land to her neighbor, Clarence Lee and moved to Park River in July of 1927. She purchased a house from Bill Brombora, one of perhaps the oldest houses in Park River and once owned by Moses Harris. This house has now been torn down to make room for the new fire hall.

Dina Kluxdal worked hard to support her younger children. The older sons having gone to work on their own. She worked at Arness' Cafe for many years and then for awhile helped take care of Mrs. Gabe Sharpe during her illness. During her later years, Dina made her home between her daughters, Ruth and Doris. She died December 31, 1970 at the age of 82 years and is buried in Memorial Park Cemetery, Park River.



L-R: 1st row: Theodore, Albert, Dennis, Iver Norman; 2nd row: Ruth, Doris, Kenneth

The children are as follows: Theodore, married Tarna Larson, farmed for many years at Odessa, Minnesota. Is now retired and still lives in Odessa. They had 6 children, Donald, Shirley, Marsha, Charles, Dale and Jacqueline. They also have 6 grandchildren.

Albert, married Olive Stine, worked for many years at Quist Acres, near Mound, Mn. Retired in 1978 to Mound and died December 30, 1980 and is buried in Mound, Mn.

Dennis, married Hulda Bloomsness, worked as custodian in the Albert Lea, MN school system. They had 3 children, James, an anesthesiologist in Centerville, Iowa, Jane and Catherine. Also had 6 grandchildren. Dennis died of cancer in September of 1973 and is buried in Albert Lea, Mn.

Iver Norman, married Lillian Jenson, served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. Settled in California after the War and is now retired and lives in Hesperia, Calif. They had 4 children, Donna, Jeffrey Iver, Nancy and Theresa. They have 4 grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Ruth married Adolph Nygard at Edinburg. They moved to Kenmare where Adolph was in the plumbing business with his dad and later moved to Williston, ND where he worked as a plumber. They had 7 children, Paula, Darleen, Warren Adolph (died in infancy), Linda, Marion, DeEtta and L. Mark. Adolph died February 24, 1977 and is buried in Williston. Ruth still resides there. There are also 19 grandchildren and 1 great grandchild.

Kenneth went to work at Douglas Aircraft in California in 1941, and stayed with them till he retired in May of 1978, when he returned to Odessa, MN to make his home. He married Mary Farmer in California, where she died in September of 1975. They had no children, Kenneth died November 2, 1978 and is buried in Memorial Park Cemetery, Park River.

Doris married Lloyd Mandt of Edinburg. They had 7 children, David, Diane, Warren Paul, Barbara (1945-1950), Adele, Jean and Joyce. They still reside in Park River.

JORGEN D. KNUTSON FAMILY HISTORY



Faith, Mariah and Jorgen Knutson (Nov. 1982)

Jorgen, originally from Red Lake Falls, MN, and Faith, originally from Pisek, ND, came to Park River in June, 1978. They accepted positions in the Park River High School. Jorgen was the vocational business education coordinator, head girls basketball coach, and assistant boys basketball coach. Faith was the high school librarian and French teacher.

On July 11, 1980, Jorgen and Faith became the parents of a baby girl -- Mariah Aleese Knutson.

Jorgen was still teaching at PRHS during the 1983-84 school year. Faith was one of five teachers who was nonrenewed in the spring of 1983 so she no longer teaches at PRHS.

Jorgen got his Bachelor of Science degree from Mayville State College in 1976 and his vocational business certification from the University of North Dakota in 1978. He graduated from St. John High School in St. John, ND, in 1964.

Faith got her Bachelor of Science degree from Mayville State College in 1971 and graduated from High School in Pisek, ND, in 1968.

The Knutsons taught school in Sykeston, ND, before coming to Park River. Jorgen, Faith and Mariah live in the Sandwood North Addition to the city.

ALOIS KOTASKA



Alois and Ross Kotaska

Alois Kotaska, Jr., was born in Spillville, Iowa. At the age of three, he came to North Dakota with his parents, Alois Kotaska, Sr., and older brothers and sisters. His parents homesteaded on a quarter section of land in Prairie Center Township, Walsh County. He was raised on that farm, with five brothers and four sisters. After the family grew up and left home, his parents moved to Pisek where Alois, Sr., and son, Frank, built a flour mill. In 1901, Alois, Jr., and Rose Kadlovec were married and took over the homestead. He bought a new steam engine and 44 inch separator for a fabulous sum of \$3,500. There was lots of threshing to do in those days. They called him "Moonlight Loui", as when it got too dark to see the shocks, he would move the rig, set the straw pile on fire and keep on threshing. The crew was paid by the day, not the hour. He had no problem getting help, men would come down from Canada two weeks before threshing time, shock all his grain for board and room and sleep in the hay loft, just to get a job on the threshing rig.

Two children were born on this farm, Emma and Ernest. In 1911, they quit farming and moved to Pisek for a short time and then to Park River, where Alois worked as a fireman in the Park River Roller Mill. He and Rose were caretakers of the then known "L'Alie Park", a beautiful place. There was a hand-made dam which held the water back up to the railroad dam, made so you could adjust the water level at all times; another walking bridge on the east side of the river going south, fastened to a huge cottonwood tree twenty feet above the ground, widening at this point to provide benches for the table around the

tree. It was a unique place to take your family for a picnic. From there the fairy land bridge continued, arched, across the river, into the bank on the south side of the river, connecting to a room, known as the spring water house, from which spring water flowed through a pipe the year around, furnishing drinking water for all the families living in that part of town. A stairway was built from the edge of the bridge to the top of the hill so that the families that lived there could get their water. Truly all these creations were a work of art. For a small fee you could take your family for a boat ride, or a swim, you could rent a swim suit, any size, also a room in a bath house to change clothes. In 1916-1917, the owner, Mr. L'Alie, suffered depression and during this time destroyed the boats and most of the park, but didn't touch the bridges. He was institutionalized, where he died...

After his death, all the property was sold to Wallace Magoon, who started a vegetable garden on the flat west of the river. A year or so later, a spring flood came and took both bridges and spring house, never to be built up again.

In the winter time, the ice on the river was harvested and hauled up town to Pomeranek's barn. Several layers of ice were packed in sawdust for summer use, which was delivered and sold to people who had ice boxes, as well as cafes and meat markets. This was delivered in a covered wagon. The blocks of ice weighed about 400 lbs. and had to be cut in size to fit the ice boxes. They also carried along a barrel of water to wash off the sawdust, which was kept on the ice blocks so they wouldn't melt too fast. Ice was worth half a cent a pound delivered, but then you could buy a pair of Wear-U-Well work shoes for \$1.98. The meat markets were the best customers; they would get a big discount as they would take four or five blocks at a time. They were washed and put on a small elevator and hand cranked, one at a time, up about 10 feet and placed above the cooler.

In 1915, Alois bought a local dray line from George Anderson. This was a flourishing business at that time, everything came in by train, fruit by the carload, as well as Mason jars for canning, crockery, salt, lumber, cement, coal, etc. Every place in town was heated by coal, all hauled by local draymen. There were three freight trains a week, going each way, two passenger trains each day, one each way, Monday through Saturday, through Park River from Grand Forks to Hannah, carrying mail, as well as passengers and express. A lot of packages from Sears Roebuck and Montgomery Ward catalogs. You could mail a letter for 2 cents. Even the power house was run by coal, which had to be hauled, as there was no side track leading to it. Draying was a year around job, in the spring every house and place of business had an ash pile that had to be hauled out, dozens of gardens to be plowed. Park River was called Little Chicago on the Hannah line by railroad brakemen.

At that time, there were three blacksmith shops, three banks, two Silent Movie houses, three shoe and harness repair shops, two doctors, two dentists, two drugstores, two newspapers, two hotels, several cream and egg buying stations, two lumber yards, four coal dealers, besides all other flourishing businesses on main street. At least three livery teams were available, especially for doctors on out-of-town sick calls. You could take in a different movie every night of the week if you had the time. The kids didn't have much problem, they would peddle show bills after school, so the whole town would know what show was on for the night. They had short episodes before each main show, Monday through Friday, continued, every night different shows, like Broken Coin, Black Box, Diamond from the Sky, Three of Hearts, Clutching Hand, Ace of Spades, etc. It had the same effect on people as today's soap operas.

It was not uncommon to see runaway horses going down Main Street and have someone run out and stop them, or get thrown to the ground and get laughed at, just like in the old cow movies, but this was for real on the main street of Park River.

The role of a housewife was far from easy. There was always a lot of dirty clothes to wash, especially in the winter, when you had to lug in the ice, melt it on a stove and boil the clothes, using homemade lye soap. There was a galvanized cistern under the house that caught rain water in the summer time. It wasn't covered so every now and then a rat would fall in and drown, then you would have to pump all the water out and start all over again. This was remedied by putting a plank to the bottom of the cistern, leading to the top on the other side, little cleats were nailed to the plank, so if the rats wanted to go in for a swim they could get out again. Besides getting the kids off to school, and church on Sunday, a 10-block walk each way, there was baking bread, stripping feathers, milking two cows, taking care of chickens, making butter, which was sold along with the eggs to local stores, and taking care of a garden, so the housewife was the first one up in the morning and the last to bed at night.

Agnes (Mrs. Harold Falter) and Elmer were born in the early twenties, and by the time they grew up, a gradual change was taking place. The automobile took over the passenger trains, the trucks took the mail and freight, and oil had taken the place of coal. This was the end of an era for the threshing machine, the draft horse, the Model T. truck and the hard-working drayman.

submitted by Mrs. Ben (Emma) Arness
Ernest and Elmer Kotaska
and Mrs. Harold (Agnes) Falter

ERNEST AND CORA KOTASKA



Ernie and Cora Kotaska

Ernest Kotaska was born January 25, 1907, on a farm, homesteaded by his grandparents, Alois and Mary Kotaska, Sr., on the SW Quarter of the same section on which Veseleyville now stands.

When he was five years old, his parents quit farming. Ernest, his older sister, Emma (Mrs. Ben Arness) and folks moved to Pisek for a short time and then to Park River. Starting school wasn't easy for either Ernest or the school teacher, as being brought up in the Czech language, all he knew in English was three words, yes, no, and his name. When the teacher asked him a question, he would try all three and find out they were all wrong to the great amusement of the class. The kids called him

"the Bohunk that killed the skunk". He took a lot of beatings that first year before the novelty wore off.

Ernest completed the eight grades in the old school house before it burned down. W.B. Simcox was the principal at that time. Ernest took a short course at WCAS from November to March, Monday through Saturday, with every period filled. E.J. Taintor was superintendent at that time.

His father, Alois, Jr., ran a local dray, and was a strong believer that there was more money in shoveling coal than in going to school, (He, himself was a first-grade drop-out) so Ernest developed a strong back and a lot of endurance at an early age. When he was in his early twenties, he and his partner, Henry Larson, picked 538 bushels of potatoes in an eight hour day on the R.L. Douglas farm east of Park River. This was some kind of record in those days.

In 1929, he bought the grocery delivery business from Ivan Spornitz, a horse, wagon and sleigh. A service highly rated amongst the housewives, as all she had to do was pick up the phone, put in her order and have her groceries delivered three times a day free, or take the kids for a stroll, do her shopping and have her groceries on the kitchen table when she got home, from participating stores, O.J. Thorson, Hartz Store, Lien Bros., A.O. Finneseth, C.H. Dale, Landsborough, Bures, Walstrom Store. Along with this, he was a mail messenger, hauling mail to and from the post office and railway mail car on the train.

In 1931 he and Cora Ackerland were married. They were blessed with five children: Gerald, James, Richard, Terry and Beverly (Mrs. Bryan Moore).

In 1941, Ernest and Merrit Simmons obtained a special permit from the Public Service Commission of North Dakota, to operate a truck line serving most of Walsh County, hauling livestock, freight and furniture moving. In 1963, this permit was sold to Lawrence Wilkes. That same year, he was employed by the State Highway Department, a job he held until December, 1973, when he was forced to retire.

Ernest has a younger brother, Elmer and a sister, Agnes (Mrs. Harold Falter).

Submitted by Granddaughter Brenda Moore

THE ELMER RAY LANDSBOROUGH FAMILY

Elmer Ray Landsborough was born May 30, 1891, and died June 9, 1962 at 71 years. He married Mabel Edith O'Rourke at Woonsocket, S.D., on June 18, 1919. Mabel was born in Green County, Wisc., on April 15, 1892 and died September 29, 1976 at St. Ansgar's Hospital, Park River.

Mabel was the oldest of ten children. She came to Park River as a milliner and worked for Fred and Janet Walstrom. Mabel was an active member of St. Mary's Church and Altar Society; was a charter member of the American Legion Auxiliary and did a great deal of work for the child welfare programs. Mabel will be remembered as having saved the life of a three-year-old child that would have drowned if she had not jumped into the water and pulled the child to safety and administered artificial respiration to the child.

Elmer was an active businessman in Park River for forty-two years. Besides his farming interests, he began with a meat market and grocery store, then expanded to a liquor store and the town's first meat locker plant. Later he built a new building to house four new bowling lanes and a lunch counter. These buildings are still located at the corner of Briggs and Fourth Street in Park River, N.D.

Elmer served as a city alderman for seventeen years and was

president during most of those years. He was active in many other civic organizations, as well as being a charter member of the American Legion and its Commander. Elmer was a veteran of World War I.

Elmer and Mabel Landsborough were the parents of three daughters, Fern M. Landsborough Isaacson, Virginia M. Landsborough Whalen, and Geraldine F. Landsborough Sorenson. They also have two grandchildren, John L. Whalen and Keith M. Sorenson.

Fern N. Landsborough Isaacson was born April 13, 1920; married on June 14, 1947 to Norman A. Isaacson who was born September 25, 1915. They have no children.

Virginia M. Landsborough, born August 11, 1922, was married on September 23, 1944 to James John A. Whalen. They have one son, John Ladd Whalen, born March 30, 1946; who was married on July 5, 1970, to Sherry Lee Gardner. They have one son, Graham Gardner Whalen, born Oct. 29, 1975.

Geraldine F. Landsborough, born Oct. 21, 1926, was married October 21, 1944, to Marvin M. Sorenson who was born January 21, 1922. They have one son, Keith Marvin Sorenson born Oct. 23, 1958.

HARRY LANDSBOROUGH FAMILY



Front row: Harry, Irene Landsborough Johnson, Dora Landsborough. Back row: Jean Erovick Mandt

Harry Lymen Landsborough, born November 27, 1896, to Samuel and Evelyn (Harris) Landsborough, in Golden Township. When Harry was born a severe snow storm prevented the doctor from getting to the farm house in time to save his mother's life. Evelyn died December 12, at the age of 26. Harry and his older brother, Earl, went to live with their uncle and aunt, William and Fanny (Harris) Landsborough. Samuel and William were brothers and Evelyn and Fanny were sisters. The children returned home after their father married Mary Routledge. They had one son, Charles, and two daughters, Florence and Lula. Lula passed away at the age of 14.

Harry farmed the land homesteaded by his father, Samuel Landsborough, in Golden and Lampton Townships. In addition to farming, he was manager of the rural Kerry Elevator, located between Park River and Edinburg. He was also a partner in a potato warehouse located near the elevator.

Back in the 30's and 40's, because of the often impassible road conditions, neighbors would often come to Kerry and catch the passenger train either "up the line" to Hannah or "down the line" to Grand Forks. Harry would have to stand in the middle of the track waving a lantern to signal the train to stop for passengers. When the train engineer saw him he would "toot" the whistle twice indicating he saw him and give him ample time to get off the track. The fare was paid either to the conductor or at the depot destination.

On February 16, 1921, he married Dora Kittleson at Crookston, MN. She was the daughter of Gregor and Anna (Fosse) Kittleson of Dundee Township. Dora was born April 5, 1889 in Telemark, Norway and came to the United States in 1894 with her parents, two brothers, Charlie and Halvor and three sisters, Margit, Nellie and Annie. Dora's hobbies were canning and baking. She won Champion Sweepstakes in both divisions several years at the Walsh County Fair and State Potato Show.

They had one daughter, Irene Delores, born June 2, 1926. She married Allerd O. Johnson on November 10, 1951. Harry and Dora had five grandchildren, DeWayne, Gail, Erna, Dwight and Lina. They also raised a niece, Mrs. Donald Mandt, (nee Jean Erovick) whose mother, Annie died when Jean was four years old.

Harry passed away June 29, 1965 at the age of 68 and Dora passed away May 26, 1982 at the age of 93.

ANDREAS HELMER LARSON (CARL LARSON)



Standing: Henry, Theodore
Seated: Carl, Olava (mother), Alvin, Anna

Andreas Helmer Larson of Krogstad, Bohuslan, Sweden and Olava Halvorson of Malium pr Skein, Norway were married in 1889.

On October 31, 1890 a daughter, Anna, was born. Around 1893 they sailed for America and settled north of Edinburg in Lampton Township. On November 1, 1894, a son Theodore was born. The Andreas Larsons were Baptist and charter members of the Bethel Norwegian Baptist Church of Edinburg, which was later moved to Park River and the name changed to The Bethel Baptist Church.

Late in 1896, the Andreas Larsons were lonesome and homesick for Norway and sailed back to Norway, where they lived in Skein for a few years. On December 20, 1897, Carl was born, a daughter, Karen, and a son, Lars, were born. Later Johnny was born on January 31, 1899. Two children died quite young, Karen at age 2 and Lars at 6 months. Anna and Theodore developed some type of bone disease in their feet and could not walk. With all the sickness among the children and the death of the 2 children, they again



Theodore and Dorothy Larson, son Jack

sailed for America on the ship Helka, the first part of October, 1901. It was seventeen days later when they landed in Hoboken, NJ. They took the train to Edinburg where they were met by relatives from Norway.

Andreas Larson homesteaded in the Edmore area. Henry was born in a sod house on Sept. 15, 1902. Mr. Larson proved the first papers, left the farm and moved north of Edinburg in the north cut area (Lampton Township) and went to work for the Great Northern Railroad section crew. He worked six days a week, for 95 cents a day. On August 6, 1906, another son, Alvin, was born, while living in the Edinburg area.

In the spring of 1908, the Andreas Larsons' moved to Park River in the northwest part of town. The following year, he went threshing in the Tiber Township area. He drank some polluted water and became very ill. He walked into Edinburg to catch the train to Park River to receive medical aid. He lived about a week before he died at his home. His wife was not at home as she was away cooking in a cook car for Jim Dougherty. Mr. Larson died September 25, 1909.

Johnny died May 26, 1913, at the age of 14 years.

Anna married William H. Dalton. They had two children, Carriette and William B. Carriette married Cyril Vacura and they had two children, Ronald and a daughter, Carol. Henry married Alice Rachac and they had three children, Henry L., Terrance and a daughter, Victoria.

Theodore attended Park River High School in 1913, the first year it opened. He also served in World War I in the Navy. He married Dorothy Simcox in Grand Forks on June 22, 1922. In 1982, they celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. They had two sons, Jack and William. Both served in World War II. Bill was killed two weeks after he landed in France and his body lies in the national cemetery in France. Jack was a radio operator on a supply plane. He flew 156 flights over the Himalaya Mountains without an accident, although they were shot at many times. Dorothy and Ted live in Chehalis, Washington.

Henry is a minister in the Assembly of God Church in Yakima, Washington. He married Agnes Smazik, who died November 13, 1970. They had three children, two daughters, Marion and Delores and a son, Buddy. He died when three years old.

Alvin never married. He served in World War II. He died

November 7, 1948.

Carl married Dora Yates Walls on November 25, 1940, in Crookston, MN. She had a daughter, Ramona Walls, by a previous marriage. It was on March 15, 1941, that a big storm became an event that will never be forgotten. Ramona was up town when it hit. She had left home to go to the 7 o'clock show when the storm hit. It was an awful experience neither will ever forget.

Carl never knew he wasn't a citizen of the United States until after he and Dora were married. He was talking to Elmer Ofstedahl (County Judge) when he found out that Andreas Larson, his father, never took out his second papers and that left Carl a citizen of Norway. Carl then registered as an alien and had to carry the card in his billfold. He had been voting since he was 21, thinking he was a citizen. He then started proceedings for his citizenship papers. As he was married to a citizen of the United States it took two years instead of the usual five. While waiting for his first hearing on his citizenship, he was notified to report to the local draft board for induction into the army. Carl received his citizenship papers on July 22, 1944 in Grafton, ND.

Ramona Walls graduated from Park River High School on May 25, 1945. She married A. L. Pearce and they have 3 sons, Lanny, David and Mike. All live near Atlanta, GA.

CHARLEY N. LARSON AND FAMILY



Charley N. Larson, Elmer, Marie, Harold

Charley N. Larson was born in Naustdal, Sunnfjord, Norway, on April 23, 1862. He emigrated to this country in 1881, first stopping in St. Paul and St. Peter. He then moved to Little Falls, MN, where he bought some land from Charles Lindbergh's father. His next stop was in Ada, MN and then on to Park River in the early 1900's.

He was a carpenter and builder, part time on his own and sometimes for Ed Herwick Construction. Among the buildings he helped build was the Pleasant Valley Lutheran Church.

He married Marie Romuld in 1904. Three sons were born to this marriage, Elmer, Harold and Melvin. Melvin died in infancy.

Marie Romuld came to this country with her parents and grandparents when she was one year old. They homesteaded northeast of Edinburg, ND, in 1881. Marie died August 16, 1911.

Charley Larson worked in Crookston until he retired to Park River in the early 30's. He died December 17, 1945.



**Back: Judy, Charles, Sonja
Front: Sadie and Elmer Larson**

Elmer Larson was born July 24, 1906 in Park River. He graduated from High School in 1924, went on to Mankato Business College and then to St. Paul where he worked in a bank for a short time. He returned to Park River where he worked as bookkeeper at Overbye and Scidmore Garage. He headed west to Minot for a short stay, then on to Montana, where he managed department stores in Big Timber, Great Falls, Dillon and finally in Deer Lodge, Montana. He married Sadie Erickson at Big Timber, Montana. They had three children, Sonja, Judy and Charles. Elmer died September, 1977 and Sadie died January, 1979.



**Back: Debra, Janis, Marsha
Front: Harold and Ruth Larson**

Harold Larson was born March 5, 1908 in Park River. He attended grade and high school at Park River and one year at Concordia College. He worked locally at Finneseths and for Sam Ebbson. He worked 8 years in Grafton at S and L and at Motroen and Lokken Dry Cleaning Plant.

He spent four and a half years in the Army with the North

Dakota 164th Infantry in Louisiana and South Pacific Theatre. He joined the Soil Conservation Service in 1945 at Park River and was transferred to Larimore in 1947, where he retired in 1971. He was married to Ruth Ludewig at Deer Lodge, Montana in 1950. Three daughters were born to them, Marsha, Janis and Debra.

Harold spends his retirement time in traveling around the country and has made four trips to Europe.

DAYTON LARSON FAMILY



**Dayton and Audrey Larson
Ryan and Garrett**

Dayton Hugh Larson, son of the late Hubert Larson and Neome (Clemetson) Larson Christenson, was born in Portland, Oregon on July 12, 1949. He is the youngest of three children, the others being Harlan and Jim, both of Lompoc, California.

Dayton attended school in Park River and graduated from the Walsh County Agricultural School in 1968. He attended Mayville State College and graduated from Greeley Aviation School in Greeley, Colorado.

On June 15, 1974, he married Audrey Jean Setnes, daughter of Elmo and Marie (Frovarp) Setnes, Park River, at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church of Park River. Audrey was born in Grafton on September 8, 1952. She is the youngest of three children, the others being Wanda (Mrs. Warren Ludtke), Park River, and Gary Setnes, Carbondale, Colorado.

Audrey attended school in Park River and graduated from the Walsh County Agricultural School in 1970. She attended Mayville State College and graduated from Patricia Stevens School, Minneapolis, Minn., in fashion merchandising. After graduation, she worked at Norby's in Grand Forks and in January of 1974 she began work at the First Bank of Park River. She was the first teller to work at the First Bank in Pisek and is currently head teller at the First Bank of Park River.

On April 1, 1977, Dayton took over the Larson's Cafe which was owned by his mother since 1950. Besides running the cafe, Dayton paints and refinishes. Dayton has played in bands since he was sixteen, his musical talent seemed to be inherited from his mother, Neome, as she played in a band with her brothers and sisters called the Royal Knights. Dayton is also a member of the Park River Fire Department.

The Larsons bought the H.D. Long home in 1975 where they presently reside. Dayton and Audrey are the parents of two boys, Ryan Turner, born May 10, 1979 and Garrett Lloyd, born September 21, 1980. They are members of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in Park River.

GORDON S. AND ORA A. LARSON



Gordon and Ora A. Larson

Gordon S. Larson was born Oct. 21, 1916 in Grand Forks, ND, the son of Olaf and Marie (Granheim) Larson, immigrants from Norway. His three brothers and one sister are all living and residing in either Minnesota or North Dakota.

Mrs. Gordon Larson (Ora) was born Dec. 5, 1918, at Fertile, Minn., the oldest daughter of Darwin and Alma (Flatlen) Bodahl. She has two sisters and one brother also living in Minnesota or North Dakota.

Mr. Larson grew up in East Grand Forks, MN, and after attending the University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, he started working as a bookkeeper at the Minnesota National Bank in East Grand Forks, Aug. 25, 1935.

He and Ora Bodahl were married August 1, 1939 in East Grand Forks. On May 1, 1941, he transferred to Park River, ND, as cashier at the First State Bank. (He and Ora rode the G.N. passenger train to Park River and did not get their first automobile until 1943.)

After serving in the 1264th Combat Engineers and the Finance Department for 7th Army Headquarters in the ETO he returned to Park River, in 1946, and became managing officer of the First State Bank of Park River in 1948, Vice-president in 1952, and President in 1957. This title he held until 1978 when he was named chairman of the board until his retirement on January 31, 1979. He also was director of the bank from 1946 until his retirement; he spent over 43 years in the banking profession.

Ora Larson, after graduating from high school, as valedictorian of her class, in East Grand Forks, was secretary to Edgar A. Masee, attorney-at-law until her marriage. She was secretary of the Federated Church Sunday School for many years and active in the Fortnightly Club for many years. She enjoys playing the organ, and is well known for her enthusiastic involvement in oil and water color painting for a number of years.

Gordon Larson is a Past Commander of Paul Farup American Legion Post No. 147, Park River; a past president of the Park River Commercial Club; a past president of the Tri-County Bankers Association; a past president of the Northeast District of the North Dakota Bankers Association; a past chairman of the board of trustees of the Federated Church Park River; past chairman of the Walsh County Selective Service Board; chairman of U.S. Savings Bond Sales of Walsh County for over 20

years; a treasurer of the City of Park River for over 25 years; and a past president of Hillcrest Golf Club, Park River.

Gordon and Ora Larson have four children--David, John, Julie and Daryl.

David attended Northwestern University at Evanston, Ill., where he received his B.S. degree in Russian History. After attending Indiana University at Bloomington, Ind., he earned his Masters and Doctorate degrees in Russian History and Eastern Civilization. He is now an Associate Professor and chairman of the Department of History at Hendrix College, Conway, Ark. His wife (Marilyn Erdely) has a Masters degree in School Administration and is employed in the Conway Public School System. They have one daughter, Elizabeth, who is now attending Hendrix College.

John attended Macalester College, St. Paul, Minn., where he received his B.S. degree in geology. After serving the U.S. Army in Panama for two years, during the Vietnam War, he attended the University of Wisc. at Madison, where he earned his Masters and Doctorate Degrees in geology. He is married to the former Carol Mooring who has a Masters Degree in geology from the University of Wisconsin.

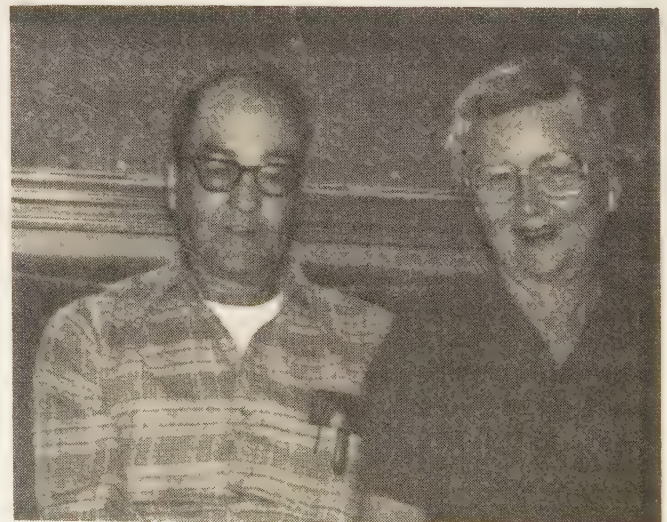
They are now living in Anchorage, Alaska, where John is employed by the U.S. Department of Mineral Management and Carol is employed as a geology consultant.

Julie attended the University of North Dakota and Arizona State University at Tempe, and has a Bachelors degree in Medical technology and is a breeder of Arabian horses. She is married to Dwight Johnson, who is a graduate of the University of North Dakota and a captain in the U.S. Air Force. He has served as a C-130 commander and as a T-37 instructor pilot. They have one son, Gregory.

Daryl is a graduate of the University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, with a B.S. Degree in geography. He is married to the former Nancy Midgarden of Park River, who is also a graduate of the University of North Dakota with a degree in education--Home Economics. Daryl is a realtor associated with Severson Real Estate in Grand Forks and Nancy is employed at Metropolitan Savings and Loan in Grand Forks.

Gordon and Ora Larson continued living in Park River after retirement until moving to Grand Forks in August, 1983 where Gordon works on a part time basis as a crop adjuster for Continental Insurance Company.

HARRY AND MARY LARSON



Harry and Mary Larson

Harry P. Larson, the youngest child of Olaf and Lena Lien Larson, was born in 1927. He attended school in Kensington No. 177 and after it closed, Kensington No. 26.

He married Mary Ford, daughter of David J. and Janet Robb Ford. Mary was born in 1927 and attended the Kensington School No. 26 for eight years and it was there she met Harry Larson.

Harry and Mary attended WCAS and graduated in 1944. Harry was active in sports and Mary excelled in music. Harry entered the Navy Seabees after graduation and served in the Pacific area during World War II. He was discharged in 1946.

Harry and Mary were married at the Ford farm home in 1945. They have made their home in Park River. Harry farmed, and together, they operated the Northside Grocery for eleven years. Harry and Mary have been active in community affairs as well as the Federated Church of Park River.

They have four children, Diane (Mrs. Daniel Franko) a graduate of NDSU and mother of three sons, Sean, Matthew and Andrew, White Bear Lake, Minn. Bonnie (Mrs. Jeff Skjerven), a graduate of UND and mother of Amy Jo and Cory, of Grafton. Richard, married to Laurie Walstad, graduates of NDSU and parents of Brandon and Wendy, of Hoople, N.D.

Robert, married to Laurie Hall, graduates of NDSU and parents of Katie, Jessica and Christopher of Park River.

HARLAN AND CARRIE LARSON



Carrie and Harlan Larson

Harlan Lee Larson and Carrie Alice Penas were born, raised and educated in Park River. Harlan is the first of three sons of Hubert and Neome Larson. Carrie is the tenth child of Jay and Mary Penas.

Harlan and Carrie graduated from WCAS in 1958 and were married that same year. In 1962, they graduated from Mayville State Teachers College with a B.S. degree in Education. Teaching jobs in Lompoc, California took them there in the fall of 1962 and that is where they presently make their home.

Both Harlan and Carrie have earned their MA degrees in Education from California State University in San Luis Obispo, California.

In 1975, Harlan and Carrie, along with Ronald and Jana Hunking purchased the LaPurissima Inn Cocktail Lounge at 143 North H. Street in Lompoc.

Harlan teaches Industrial Arts at Lompoc Middle School and also is student faculty activities director.

Carrie is Department Head of Physical Education and teaches in that field in Cabrillo High School.

Harlan and Carrie have one daughter, Teri Lynne, who resides in San Luis Obispo.

Traveling rates as Harlan and Carrie's favorite past time, their latest trip was to the USSR where they acquainted themselves with a Communistic form of government.

Harlan is very active with the Lompoc Elks Lodge No. 2274, serving as their Exalted Ruler in 1978-1979 and on the board of Trustees from 1979-1983.

JIMMIE LARSON



JoAnn and Jimmie Larson and daughters Marla and Jaimie.

I was born August 2, 1946 in Portland, Oregon. At the age of 2, my parents, Neome and Hubert Larson, and my two brothers, Harlan and Dayton moved to Park River. I attended the Park River Elementary School. Three of my four years of high school were at the WCAS. My junior year I was in Lompoc, California, living with my brother, Harlan, and his wife, Carrie. After my Junior year in a school of 2,200 students, I returned to Park River and graduated in 1965 with a class of 77 students. After that I enrolled in the fall quarter at Mayville State College. I stayed at Mayville until October of 1966, and at that time joined the U.S. Army. For the next two years, I was stationed at Fort Carson, Colorado. Then, after training, I became an instructor on the 8" Artillery Howitzer, with the 84" Artillery, 55th Armored Division.

In October of 1968, I received my honorable discharge and returned to Park River. After a short visit with relatives and friends, I was off again to California. In Lompoc, I worked for the Federal Electric Corporation on Vandenberg AFB.

In the fall of 1969 I married a California girl, and we returned to finish our college education in North Dakota. After 2 more years at Mayville, I transferred to Valley City State. In February of 1974, I completed my elementary teaching degree, after student teaching at an Elementary school in Lompoc, California. With things being tight in the teaching field I joined the ranks of Civil Service and for the next 6¼ years I worked for the Bureau of Prisons Dept. of Justice at institutions both in California and in New York.

After 12 years of marriage and two beautiful daughters, Jaimie, 7, and Marla, now 4, I was divorced and went back to California.

I am presently working for the Martin Marietta Aerospace Corp. as a Logistics Engineer on the Space Shuttle project.

I am again married to JoAnn Tolley, from Bristol, Va. She is a teacher here. We have Marla and Jaimie living with us and we are well and very happy.

LARS LARSON FAMILY



Lars and Emma Larson



Front row: Evelyn, Lars, Emma, Mabel
Back row: Lydia, Lloyd, Edith, Vernie

Lars Larson was born in Romsdalen, Norway, on July 21, 1877. At the age of 4 he came to the United States with his mother and brother, Hans. His father, Ole, had come 2 years previously.

Lars homesteaded near Thief River Falls at about the turn of the century, but after 2 years he got a job with Herb McMurray and he moved to Fertile Township. Soon after, he began farming on his own. He met Emma Johnson and they were married on March 28, 1908. They had seven children: Vernie, a rural Park River farmer, married to Anna Olson; Mabel (Mrs. Olaf Brandt) residing in Park River; Lloyd, a rural Park River farmer, died in

October 1967, was married to Olivia Olson; Evelyn (Mrs. Palmer Bye), Racine, Wisconsin; Olga, died in 1925 at the age of seven from scarlet fever; Edith (Mrs. Harold Harris) living in Park River and Lydia (Mrs. P.J. O'Brien) of Minneapolis, Minn.

Lars lived in Fertile Township until 1925, when he moved to Kensington Township, a half mile East of Park River, ND. Lars and his brother, Hans, operating under the name Larson Brothers, were potato buyers from 1926 to the early 1930's.

Lars could often be seen driving down the streets of Park River with a dog, a cat and a rooster riding along.

Lars farmed in partnership with his 2 sons, Vernie and Lloyd, until his death on July 7, 1957. His wife, Emma, lived out her remaining years in Park River after Lars' death.

VERNIE LARSON



Vernie Larson family. Front row: Anna, Shirley and Vernie.
Back row: Dennis, Verne and Larry

Vernie Larson - born December 25, 1908 in Walsh County. He went to country school in Fertile Township - graduated at WCAS in 1929. At WCAS Vernie met Anna Olson who was from the Svold area. Anna graduated in 1932 and married Vernie on December 7 of that same year

Vernie worked as a farm laborer for his father and in 1941 he formed a farming partnership with his father, Lars and his brother, Lloyd. They farmed together until Lars' death in 1957. Vernie and Lloyd continued farming together until Lloyds' death October 13, 1967. Vernie still farms with the help of his grandsons, Kirk and Kent Tingum.

Vernie and Anna have 4 children. Shirley (Mrs. Donald Tingum) Grand Forks, N.D., Larry, Lakewood, California, Dennis, Grand Forks, N.D. and Verne, El Paso, Texas. They all attended school in Fertile and Kensington Townships and all graduated from the WCAS. Larry, Dennis, and Verne all are graduates of UND. Shirley attended UND for 1½ years and then graduated from Aakers Business College.

ORVILLE LAUGTUG FAMILY

Orville and Inez Laugtug and their three children, Loren, Lola and Bruce, became residents of Park River in March 1959. Orville was transferred by Polar Telephone Company from his position as area serviceman of Hunter, Arthur, Galesburg and Clifford, to become the Assistant Plant Manager here. At the present time, he is the Plant Manager at Polar and has held that title since 1964.



Orville and Inez Laugtug

Orville's telephone career began in 1952 at Drayton, ND, where he worked for Polar's predecessor, the North Dakota Telephone Company. When Polar Telephone came into operation and purchased these areas, Orville accepted the position at Hunter.

Some of Orville's activities, as a resident of Park River, have been as a member of the Fire Department, Ambulance Service, Bowling and Softball teams, Golf Club, Park Board, Masonic Lodge, Boy Scout Master, Our Saviour's Lutheran Church Choir, Luther League Advisory, the Church Council, Park River and Walsh County HUD Committees and the REA Job Safety and Training Program in North Dakota.

Inez has been one of the third grade teachers in Park River since 1967. She began teaching in the Park River School District in September 1959, in the Jr. High Department. At that time, the job consisted of teaching all subjects in the self-contained classroom, besides the girl's Phy Ed and directing the Park River Pony Newspaper, Annual, Pep Club, 8th Grade Class Play and Graduation.

Inez also taught in the Drayton Public School for two years prior to this, after which she retired for five years to raise her family.

In Park River, Inez has served as a Sunday School and Bible School teacher, Luther League Advisor and officer in the Circle Bible Study groups and the American Lutheran Churchwomen at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church. She has been a member of the City Public Library Board, Fortnightly Federation of Women's Clubs, Order of Eastern Star and was named an Outstanding Elementary Teacher of America in 1974.

The story of this family really began when Orville Rueben Laugtug and Inez Marie Elverud were united in marriage at the Leeds Lutheran Church on July 20, 1952.

Orville is a native of Knox, ND, born to Ole and Esther Krogstad Laugtug. His father, Ole, was born in Trondheim, Norway. Esther was born at Ada, Minnesota. He has a brother, Elmer, at Rugby, ND, and a sister Betty (Mrs. Ray Brustad) of Devils Lake. After graduating from the Knox High School, Orville served in the U.S. Navy.

Also born and raised on a farm, Inez is the daughter of the late Iver and Marie Paulson Elverud of Leeds. Iver Elverud was born at Volga, South Dakota. Her mother, Marie, was born and raised at Silva, ND. Inez has two brothers, Harry, who lives on the farm where she was born, and Lyle of Garden City, New York. She has one sister, Gladys (Mrs. George Freund) of Cando.

After attending a rural school for six years, Inez entered Leeds Public School, where she also graduated from high school. Inez received her 2nd Grade Professional Certificate from Minot State College and her BS in Elementary Education from the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks.

The Laugtug children attended and graduated from the Park River Schools. Loren is also a graduate of the University of North Dakota. He is the Energy Extension Agent from NDSU, serving the Northeastern District. Loren is married to the former Denise Peterson of Litchville, ND. They have a two year old son, Stephen, and reside in Grand Forks. Denise has a degree in Political Science from UND.

Lola Mae attended Dakota Business College and was employed by the John Morrell Company in Fargo. She married Paul Hagen, and they live on a farm between Fordville and Park River, with their three sons, Ross-7, Eric-5 and Luke-2.

Bruce Laugtug graduated from NDSU in Fargo, with a degree in Electrical Engineering and Business Administration. He is employed by Foss Engineers and Architects Ass. in Fargo.

Some of the Laugtug's interests and pastimes now are camping, fishing, traveling, music and most of all their children and grandchildren. They have lived in Park River longer than any other place in their lives and consider it a great place to call home.

RALPH LEONARD



Ralph Leonard

Long time City of Park River employee, Ralph Leonard, will be remembered for his rounds reading meters each month.

Frank Leonard, Ralph's father, worked for the City of Park River 24 years before his death, in 1946. Mr. Leonard worked many years at the City power plant and Ralph remembers carrying many meals to him there.

George Widme, City Engineer, hired Ralph to take his father's place on the crew after Frank Leonard died. Ralph found a variety of jobs to do and meter reading was only one of the many things he was asked to do.

Ralph married Chrystal Johnson and they raised two sons. Chrystal also worked for many years at the grocery store, drug store and at the Park River Clinic. Their sons, Tony married and has two sons, Kevin and Shawn, is manager of the branch office of American Excelsior Co. in Denver. Mike is married to Darlene Machovsky of Park River and they have two children, Timmy and Sheryl.

Ralph was always interested in hunting and fishing and an avid member of the Gun Club. He was also active in American Legion baseball, Volunteer Fireman and attended the Catholic Church.

BERT LEVIN FAMILY

Bert Levin moved to Park River with his father and mother, from Plymouth, Iowa. His parents were Andrew Levin and Gurina (Birk) Levin. Andrew had a brother, Aaron Levin, who, with his wife, Artha, also lived in Park River. They were parents of Palmer Levin, formerly of Park River, who now lives in Minot, North Dakota. Bert Levin's mother was Gurina Birk, who had a brother (Ingebret Birk) who farmed east of Park River. Gurina also had two sisters who lived near Park River, Mrs. Sikki Hadland and Mrs. Tumina Erickson, (mother of Ed Erickson). Ed Erickson was a former Section Foreman on the Railroad in Park River for many years. Bert Levin was from a family of 10 children. They were Elsie Levin, Mary (Mrs. Tom Koppang), Jennie Levin, Gladys Levin, Tillie (Mrs. Chris Lofthus), and Adelaine (Mrs. Win Rose), Nels Levin, Aaron Levin and Ted Levin.

Bert Levin married Marie Louise Simonsen on August 11, 1911. Marie was born near Milton, North Dakota. She was the daughter of Carrie and Adolph Simonsen. Her father died when Marie was young and her mother married Edward E. Dahl, who lived in Park River, for many years. Marie had five brothers. They were Sam Simonsen, Adolph Dahl, Martin Dahl, Ivan Dahl and Carl Herman Dahl. Carl and Martha Dahl farmed near Park River. Martha lives in Park River now, but Carl is deceased, as are all the other brothers of Marie. Marie died at the age of 86 years on May 8, 1977, Bert Levin died in October, 1963, at the age of 79. Bert worked on the Railroad in Park River for 33 years.

Bert and Marie Levin were the parents of 8 children. Gladys Levin (Mrs. Ted Jensen), and Raymond Earl Levin, both deceased. Mrs. Margaret Odden and Mrs. Lillian Funseth both live in Park River as does Alden Levin. James Levin lives in Bismarck and Donna Levin (Mrs. Harold Nissen) of Parshall, ND. One child died in infancy.

Gladwin Jensen of Park River was Gladys and Ted Jensen's son. Kenny Funseth of Park River and Mrs. Don (Helen) Gosselin of Grafton are children of Mrs. Lillian Funseth. Mrs. Bob (Kathryn) Philippe of Warroad, Minnesota, Mrs. Ed (Pauline) Lafrenz of Grand Forks and Dennis Odden of Grand Forks are children of Mrs. Margaret Odden. James and Carol (Sholey) Levin are parents of Jeff Levin and Rhonda Levin. Harold and Donna (Levin) Nissen are parents of 6 children. Jim and Jon Nissen of Parshall, Mrs. Cam (Jill) Spitzer and Mrs. Keith (Jan) Hauge of Dickinson, Mrs. John (Jodie) Rodgers of Parshall and Jackie Nissen of Parshall.

ALBERT D. LEWIS

The Lewis Brothers Farm owned and operated by Clinton D. and Albert D. Lewis is now 100 years old in 1984. It is now The Lewis Ranch operated by Clinton's son, Larry D., wife Wanda and family.

Albert D. Lewis was born May 12, 1908 to John Lewis and Harriet (Davis) Lewis. He attended school at the Kensington School District No. 98, graduating from the Walsh County Agricultural School in 1928. He was a member of three stock judging teams. After winning first in the State Livestock Judging, among thirty teams in Fargo, the team went to Kansas City for national honors. The team consisted of Kenneth Ferguson, Chris Midgarden and Albert Lewis. They judged at Sioux City, Iowa, also. He was a member of St. Peter and St. James Episcopal Church, Golden Valley Lodge No. 26, A.F. and A.M. North Dakota Stockmen's Association for thirty years and a member of the Park River Junior Chamber of Commerce.



Albert and Eleanor Lewis

Albert was married to Eleanor Harstad, November 10, 1940 at Mayville, N.D. Eleanor was born at Portland, N.D. on August 11, 1910 to Anton A. Harstad and Emma (Austinson) Harstad. She attended school in Mayville and graduated from Mayville State College with a special certificate in music. She taught school over thirty years in the elementary grades and elementary music, kindergarten through Junior High School. Eleanor is a member of the Northeast Retired Teachers Association, Order of the Eastern Star, Mary C Chapter No. 20, P.E.O. Sisterhood Chapter Q Park River, The Book and Discussion Club, a member of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church and the ALCW (Ladies' Aid). Albert and Eleanor farmed in the Park River area until retiring in 1971. Albert passed away June 3, 1983 at the age of 75.

WILLIAM HENRY LEWIS AND HAZEL(RAMSEY) LEWIS



William and Hazel (Ramsey) Lewis

William Henry Lewis was born May 13, 1892 to John Lewis and Harriet (Davis) Lewis. He attended first grade in Park River. The following year the Landsborough School was built and he attended school one and one-half miles from their farm home.

The Lewises were members of the Episcopal Church. Between 1901-1903 they joined together with their neighbors in the building

of a church home in Park River. The fieldstone basement was laid by Inkerman Davis. William (or Bill) accompanied his father to the fields and stone piles to help select stones to be part of the new church.

In 1913 he went to Glasgow, Montana to homestead, coming home for Christmas in 1916 to see his family and to marry Hazel Ramsey.

Bill was married to Hazel Ramsey on February 14, 1917 at Crystal, N.D. and they left from Grand Forks by train for their new home in Montana the same evening.

Hazel Elizabeth Ramsey was born Nov. 22, 1894 to Aaron Ramsey and Alice (Davis) Ramsey, at their farm home in Vernon Township. She was a member of the Ramsey Grove Presbyterian Church and attended the Ramsey Grove School. In 1914 she moved with her family to rural Crystal (Pembina County).

There were hard times in Montana. There was little rain, so crops were poor and feed for livestock was scarce. In 1919 they returned to North Dakota and farmed in the Park River area until they retired from farming in 1953, and moved to Park River. Bill and Hazel lived to celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary. Bill died in 1971, Hazel died in 1973. They are both buried at Park River Memorial Cemetery. Bill and Hazel were the parents of seven children. Allen, preceded his parents in death, November 1967.

Vernon was married to Angeline Chyle. They had three children, Barbara, Mary Sue and William John. Vernon served in the Army during World War II and then made his home in California where he worked for the State. Angeline passed away in 1982 and Vernon passed away September 23, 1983.

Dorothy, Mrs. Albert Gillespie, lives in Park River. They had four children; Jay married Carol Rinde. They live on the home farm and have four children. Jean, twin to Jay, lives in California. She married Stan Guilmette and they had one daughter.

Charles married Norma McLaughlin. They have two children and live in Muscatine, IA. Robert married Margie Johansson. They had four children. Robert was divorced and now lives in Montana.

JEAN ALICE (LEWIS) GUILMETTE



Wedding picture of Jean Lewis and Stan Guilmette.

Jean Alice Lewis was born June 27, 1923 at Park River to William and Hazel (Ramsey) Lewis. She graduated from the Walsh County Agricultural School. During World War II Jean worked in the electronic industry, in California. Eitel and McCullough was one of the only plants on the San Francisco peninsula, at that time. Some parts Jean worked on were

used in the construction of the atomic bomb. In the late 1960's Jean worked for General Electric Company in California. With her high security clearance she was able to work on the project that put the first man on the moon.

July 31, 1948 she married Stan Guilmette at San Mateo, California. Stan was a machinist. They had one child, Linda Jean, born August 15, 1949. She is an account analyst, with Leasametric-- a firm that leases electronic test equipment-- in Foster City, California. Linda has one daughter, Lisa Green, a student at Hillsdale High School, San Mateo, California.

Stan passed away in 1982, Jean continues to make her home in San Mateo, Calif.

DAVID JOHN LIDDLE

David John was born July 21, 1877, near Bell Corners, Ontario, Canada. In 1883, his parents moved to a homestead near Park River. On December 11, 1907 he married Mary Emma Ramsey, daughter of Arron and Alice Ramsey, the Liddle's neighbors. Five sons and one daughter were born of this union; David, Harold, Ernest, Delwin, Glen and Alice. .

David John suffered a heart attack in 1942 so the family retired to El Monte, California, where David John passed away in 1945. Mary Emma continued to live in El Monte and passed away in 1980 at the age of 92.

HUGH LIDDLE

Hugh Liddle, my father, was born July 8, 1875, in Canada when his parents, John and Jane Liddle were enroute from Ireland to North Dakota. They had been farmers in Ireland and settled on a farm near Park River, North Dakota.

His mother, Jane Liddle, died March 21, 1889. This was a traumatic experience in my father's life. He was close to his mother and could not seem to overcome his loss. After his father remarried, he was very unhappy. He left home and shifted for himself. He traveled from place to place. The West Coast suited him best, especially Oregon.

He married Pearl Howard September 15, 1905 in Aberdeen, S.D. To this union four children were born : Luella (Mrs. Henry) Hottmann, August 13, 1906, now in Rapid City, S.D.; Roger, May 27, 1910, who died August 5, 1929; Forest, October 7, 1911; and Hazel (Mrs) Burk, October 28, 1913, both of Albany, Oregon.

In Aberdeen, father was a painter of houses, now known as interior decorators. He had a good eye for color. He could match drapes and rugs well, which pleased the ladies. They decided to be adventurous so they went west of the Missouri River near Capa, S.D., to homestead. This was a rough life. The water was so alkali that the cattle could not drink it. There was no rain. Soon discouragement overtook them and the family left for North Dakota.

They moved to Park River, N.D. Father helped his brothers and father on their farms. He loved to fish and so went fishing often on the Park River. On rare occasions he would take me (Luella) fishing. To this day fishing is one of my favorite fun things.

From Park River they moved to Barnard, S.D. where father managed the Farmers' Grain Elevator. During his stay there he had a kidney stone operation. His health failed some after this. He transferred to Gettysburg, S.D., to become the manager of the elevator there.

There they purchased an acreage and built a home. It was on the edge of town so they had chickens and a cow. Mother milked the cow by choice and father prepared breakfast. Often on

Sundays he would prepare the meat for our Sunday dinner. (He thought he could do it better and mother was happy to let him think so!) This was years before our liberation movement was a concept. Roger became ill and the doctor advised taking him to the mountains. They sold their home and moved to Colorado. There they truck gardened. After my brother Roger died there was no reason to stay in Colorado.

My father's dream came true! They left for Oregon. Hazel and Forest made the move with them. Of course, this meant selling their belongings in Rocky Ford, Colorado. Another operation brought poorer health to my father. He worked at various things when he was able. He enjoyed Oregon. He died of a massive coronary on May 17, 1949. His death marked the end of an era—the western frontier.

Submitted by Luella Liddle Hottmann

JOHN LIDDLE



John Liddle

John Liddle, Sr., was born to Hugh and Ellen Liddle November 24th, 1852 in Crookgrally, Ireland. John came to Canada, working there until he married Jane Brown in 1873, in Almonte, Ont. three boys, Hugh, John, William and a girl, Elizabeth. Here he bought land and farmed 32 years, until his retirement in 1913.

His farm was registered and paid for in October 1884, in the General Land Office, Grand Forks, Dakota Territory.

In 1881, Ellen Jane Liddle was born. In 1889 his wife, Jane, died. When he retired in 1913 he sold his farm to his son, William, who farmed and lived on the land until his death in 1950.

When John moved off the farm he bought the house 104 Harris

Avenue, Park River, from Helge A. Hall, and lived there until his death in 1926. John's sons all married and lived and farmed in the area.

His daughter, Ella, married Emil Borgeson who farmed in Vernon Township, and daughter Elizabeth married John Grayson, first farming in the Lankin area then moving to Montana. John Liddle was a charter member of the Presbyterian Church of Ramsey Grove. He was among one of the first and great pioneers of the valley.

JOHN O. LIEN FAMILY



John Lien, Ralph, Thelma and Oline Lien



John Lien in foreground, other man unknown.

John and Oline (Ovnand) Lien were married in the year 1900 and lived all their married life in Park River. Both were from firm Norwegian heritage. They raised three children, Ralph, Thelma and Margaret.

John was a butcher and was known as the best in town at that time. Sometimes, he would relax by going to the pool hall to play gin rummy or smear and his winnings would be the biggest Nut Goodie bars and the best Oranges, or so it would seem to us kids when he would bring them home to us. We really looked forward to that because money was scarce and we didn't get such goodies often.



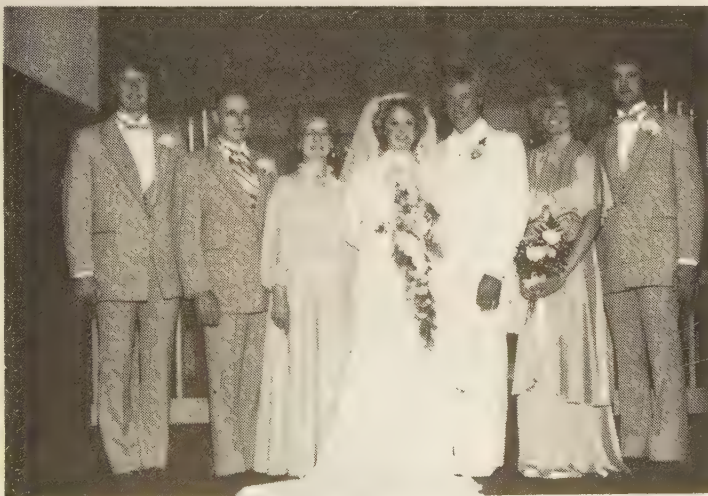
Margaret Lien Amb

When Oline was widowed there was very little money to raise us kids so she took in washing and because we lived next to the grade school it consisted of teachers' laundry. She got 10 cents for every item and that, with her widow's pension, supplied us with the necessities.

Our home was small but always had room for a relative to stay to attend high school, and because they all came from farms we were always supplied with fresh meat and eggs for payment. There was a lot of good Norwegian cooking and baking. Oline was known for her lefse and her beautiful flower gardens. We never had much as far as luxuries, but our home was filled with love.

Ralph never married, Thelma married a Lindberg and Margaret became Mrs. Norris Amb and lives in Devils Lake.

HARVEY AND GRACE LOFTSGARD FAMILY



Harvey Loftsgard Family

Gary, Harvey, Grace, Debbie and Clyde Bloyer, Cindy and Brion

Harvey Loftsgard was born August 7, 1923, to Theodore and Theodora Loftsgard of Hoople. He grew up on a farm in Dundee Township and attended grade school there. He graduated from the Walsh County Agricultural School in 1941. He worked at different jobs before enlisting in the U.S. Navy in 1944. Harvey

has two sisters and three brothers.

On May 9, 1945, he married Grace Laurine Lien, the daughter of the late Henry and Laurine Lien, in Park River. Grace was born July 7, 1924, in Golden Township where she attended elementary school. Grace graduated from the Walsh County Agricultural School in 1943. She has three brothers and two sisters.

After their marriage, Grace and Harvey lived in Seattle for a year where Harvey was stationed with the Navy. Grace was employed at Sears Roebuck Co. They returned to Park River where Harvey worked at Silliman Implement for several years. He was employed by Malde and Sharpe Hardware before purchasing the business from them in the mid-sixties.

The Loftsgards have three children. Gary Allyn was born July 9, 1947, at Grafton. He graduated from WCAS in 1965 and attended North Dakota State University in Fargo where he played varsity basketball. He enlisted in the U.S. Army and spent a year of duty in Vietnam. He now lives in Robinsdale, Minn., and is presently employed by United Parcel Post out of Minneapolis.

Their second son Brian Douglas was born February 23, 1955, at Grafton. He graduated from WCAS in 1973 and the State School of Science at Wahpeton in 1975. From there he went on to St. Cloud State University and earned a Bachelor of Science Degree. He was quarterback of the football team his senior year. He married Cynthia Shaffer on August 19, 1978, in the Evangelical Covenant Church in Mankato, Minn. They live in Minneapolis where Brian is Office Manager for Comer's Soft Water Co. They are the parents of two children: Jessica Joan and Nathan Ryan.

Debra Denise was born June 28, 1957 at Grafton. She graduated from Walsh County Ag School in 1975 and college in St. Paul, Minn., in 1978 with an Associate Arts Degree. On May 31, 1980, she married Clyde Bloyer at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in Park River. They now live in Grantsburg, Wisc., where her husband is a loan officer with PCA at Luck, Wisc. They have two sons: Jason David and Joshua Daniel.

Harvey and Grace are members of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church. Grace has sung for many years in the church choir, is active in ALCW and After 5 Club- a Christian Business and Professional Women Club of America. Harvey has served on church boards and Secretary Treasurer of Sunday School for several years.

Grace's hobbies are playing the piano and organ, sewing, ceramics and reading.

Harvey enjoys flying and his ambition is to make a home built air plane. They have made several trips in their small plane and both enjoy traveling, camping and visiting their grandchildren.

Harvey is a former ambulance driver, past president of Park River Volunteer Fire Department and served on the Park River City Council.

THE FAMILY OF ALVIN AND LILLIAN LOVAASEN

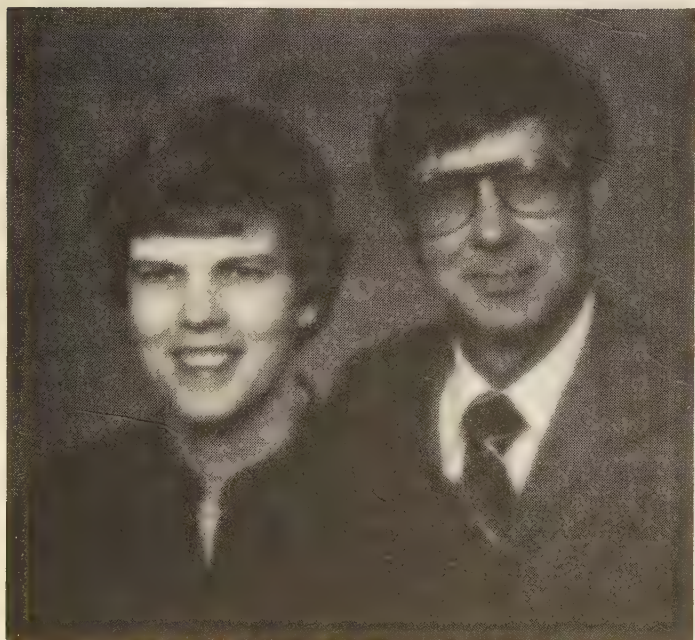
Alvin H. Lovaasen (1912-1978) was born and raised on the farm in Golden Township that was homesteaded by his grandparents, Andreas (1837-1907) and Ellen Maria Fjeld Johansen (1843-1919). His parents were John (1878-1950) and Clara Grovom Lovaasen (1888-1941).

Alvin married Lillian Rud (1915-) in 1939, and their first home was in Golden Township.

Lillian was born in Williams County and came to Walsh County at age three. She was raised by her grandparents, Kristian (1860-1943) and Anne Johansen Seim (1858-1939) on the farm they homesteaded in Tiber Township. Her parents were Nils (1883-1966) and Josephine Seim Rud (1891-1919). Alvin attended



Alvin and Lillian Lovaason



Mr. and Mrs. (Clara Jean) Paul G. Anderson



Diane and David Judd, Matthew and Susan

school at Park River. Lillian attended the Lutheran Brethren School at Fergus Falls, Minn. They both attended the Lutheran Bible Institute in Minneapolis.

Two daughters were born to this marriage: Clara Jean (1941-) and Dianne Lee (1945-).

The Lovaasen family moved into Park River about 1944. Alvin continued to farm until about 1950 when he began carpentry. He was along in building the Park River Bible Camp Chapel, Our Saviour's Lutheran Church of Park River, Trinity Lutheran Church of Edinburg, and many homes in the area. Lillian was employed at the Grafton State School for the mentally handicapped for fifteen years.

Clara Jean attended Concordia College, Moorhead, Minn. and the University of Minnesota. She married Paul Anderson in 1963. They live in Moorhead where she is a lab technician and Paul works at Crystal Sugar. They had one daughter, Gretchen (1967-1977), who was born with the birth defect, Spina Bifida.

Dianne graduated from Concordia College and married David Judd in 1971. They reside in Eagan, Minn. Their two children are Matthew (1974-) and Susan (1977-). David is with Cray Research. Dianne's interests include folklore, quality child care, crafts and the Stephen Ministry.

The Lovaasen family have been active members of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in Park River. Alvin sang in the choir for many years, was a deacon and an active member of The Lutheran Brotherhood. Lillian taught Sunday School and is active in A.L.C.W.

In 1962 Lillian visited her father, stepmother, sisters and brother and other "Slegtninger" in Norway. Alvin, Lillian and Dianne together toured Denmark and Norway in 1971 visiting relatives in Nesna, Mo i Rana, Bodo and Gjerdrum. In their 1973 trip to Norway, Alvin and Lillian located and visited Alvin's relatives at Eidskog and Skotterud. They were again at Gjerdrum, her father's home, and also with Esther (Rud) Bjorknes at Stavanger.

WARREN C. LUDTKE FAMILY



Wanda and Warren Ludtke, Darcie and Darren

Warren C. Ludtke, son of Herman H. and Cecelia (Kyrola) Ludtke, was born at Sebeka, MN, on June 23, 1953. Warren has one brother, Harold H. Ludtke of Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Warren attended school in Sebeka, graduating in 1971. He graduated from the Area Vocational Technical Institute in Wadena, MN, in 1972 and started working for Polar Telephone

Company in Park River, ND, that same year.

On June 26, 1976, Warren married Wanda Faye Setnes, daughter of Elmo and Marie (Frovarp) Setnes, Park River, at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church of Park River. Wanda is the oldest child in a family of three, the others being Gary Setnes, Carbondale, Colorado; and Audrey (Mrs. Dayton Larson) Park River, ND. Wanda attended school in Park River and graduated from the Walsh County Agricultural School in Park River, ND, in 1965. She graduated from Aakers Business College in Grand Forks, ND, in 1966. Wanda was employed by the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks, ND, for 10 years and the First National Bank in Grafton, ND, for two years. She is currently employed by the Good Samaritan Center, Park River, ND. Wanda is a past member of the Beta Sigma Phi Sorority, Park River Jaycettes and the Walsh County Legal Secretaries Association.

The Ludtkes are members of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church. Warren is a member of the Walsh County Archery Club and the Park River firemen. Warren is currently employed by Samson Electric in Park River, ND.

Warren and Wanda are the parents of two children--Darren Lee, born October 4, 1978; and Darcie Faye, born May 20, 1981.

LORENZ AND VERNA MAHRER



The Lorenz Mahrer family

On June 1, 1981, the Mahrers, Lorenz and Verna, retired from the grocery business after a full and active life.

Lorenz was born at Forman, N.D. He went to a country school there until he moved with his parents to Milnor. There he had his first taste of business life when he was eleven years old. His first job was delivering groceries in his red coaster wagon. He also helped around the store sweeping floors, watering lutefisk and pumping kerosene. Lorenz graduated from Valley City High School in 1929 having moved there in 1927 with his parents, father Mathew Mahrer and mother Anna Kramer Mahrer. Lorenz had four brothers, Henry, Frank, Ray and Leo, also three sisters, Florentine, Agnes and Clara. His grandparents emigrated from Switzerland by way of boat from Rotterdam to Pennsylvania in 1840. Grandfather was a glass blower by trade. When Civil War broke out the family traveled west to Decorah, Iowa. Mathew was born at Ft. Atkinson, Iowa in 1860. Hearing about free homestead land in N.D. territory, the family consisting of the grandparents, Henry and Agnes Mahrer, sons Mathew and Henry, and a married sister Rose and her husband, started the long trek north. A team of horses pulling a wagon with all their possessions while the rest walked into Wahpeton. They had \$7.50 between the

six of them. Jobs were unavailable, a neighbor let them live in a part of his house the first winter. They existed on potatoes, corn meal and roasted barley for coffee. They traded the horses for four oxen and wintered them in a straw stack, also mortgaged two oxen to get a little stake. They homesteaded land near Forman and gradually times improved.

Verna's grandfather, Daniel Tharaldson, at age twenty-nine emigrated from Fosness, Norway with his mother, Johanna Olson who was fifty-one. I have their original steamship tickets dated 1872. They traveled to Eau Claire, Wisconsin. Daniel was a painter and a carpenter and readily found work. He applied for citizenship in 1876 and was granted full rights in 1880. He married Ingnora Bertine Lie of Baldwin, Wisc., and in the spring of 1882 started the long journey to Dakota territory. They settled in Barnes County, Laketown township and filed claim on one quarter of land. In the fall of 1883, five acres of sod produced sixty bushels of wheat. In 1884, fifteen acres produced 160 bushels. In 1885 50 acres produced 600 bu. of wheat and 10 acres of oats brought 200 bu. 1886 due to gophers only 450 bu. wheat on 50 acres and 15 acres of oats, 600 bu. 1887 yield was 400 bu. of wheat and 600 bu. of oats. When Daniel showed proof of homestead five years later, he listed four horses, nine head of cattle, two hogs, fifty chickens, one dog and two cats.

Daniel's mother, Johanna Olson also filed a claim but died before completion. The land went to her heirs.

Ingnora died of tuberculosis in 1902 and Daniel died of a heart attack in 1903 while building a new home for his family. Two sons died in infancy, living family included; Emil, born in 1886, Lula, born in 1887 and Ida, born in 1891. With the parents' deaths, the three children were left orphans at the ages of sixteen, fifteen and eleven. Each child inherited one quarter of land. Lula lived on the family home.

Lula and Ida attended Valley City Normal School, Lula became acquainted with a young man from Norway, Mike Martinson. At seventeen he had earned enough money for a passage from Norway to America. He was christened Menelai, son of Martinous and Ellen Hopstad Bjornnor. As was the custom, the eldest son usually took his father's first name and added 'son'. In his case nobody could spell or pronounce Menelai so he changed it to Mike Martinson. Mike and Lula were married in the third street Lutheran Church at Valley City, N.D. in February of 1909. They left immediately on a honeymoon in Norway. Three daughters were born on the family homestead at Dazey; Annetta, Eleanor and Verna. Verna was graduated from Dazey High School, passed the state boards in Hairdressing and Cosmetology, attended Valley City State Teachers College on a part time basis, worked in and was a part time manager of the Bluebird Beauty Shop, belonged to the Business and Professional Women's Club, the Methodist Church and the Wesleyan Service Guild while working in Valley City.

Lorenz graduated from Valley City High School, attended Valley City State Teachers College, had a partnership in a dairy, delivered groceries, partnership in a small grocery, manager of the S and L grocery department. Employed by Red Owl at Carrington, N.D., enrolled in Red Owl manager trainee program, transferred to Devils Lake, Mohall and promoted to manager of Edgeley in 1939. In 1942, he bought into a partnership of the Fairway store, the B and M Market. Sold the Edgeley store in 1946 and the Mahrers spent the next thirty-five years in the grocery stores of Park River.

Both Lorenz and Verna have been active in community work. Lorenz belongs to Lions, served as vice president and president of Commercial Club, fireman for ten years, St. Ansgar's hospital board, member of the school board, director First State Bank, on

board of Sunset Founders, Good Samaritan, Agassiz Health Planning Council, member steering committee for seventy-fifth and Centennial for Park River. Belongs to Catholic church, taught Sunday School, sang in Choir, K.C. Knight of the Year, Greater Grand Forks Barbershopper of the Year and Grocer of the Year, voted most courteous clerk of the year.

Verna has been active as a member of the Federated Church teaching Sunday School, secretary, treasurer, vice president and president of the Womens Fellowship, member and secretary of the church governing board, held all offices as a member of the Fortnightly study club, Dist. Conservation Chairman, 1948 was co-chairman of the G.F.W.C. state convention. Needing a challenge in retirement, Verna went back to school, she is now a sophomore at the University of North Dakota, majoring in History.

The Mahrers have five children; Nancy (Mrs. Orvin) Espelien, graduated from Park River High School, co-manager of Mahrers Red Owl, now produce manager of Leever's Super Valu. The Espeliens have four children, Mark, Kurt, Gregg and Kari.

David Mahrer is a Consulting Psychologist. He received his B.S. and Masters Degree from the University of North Dakota and his Doctorate from the University of Arizona. He and his wife, Marybeth, and daughter Catherine, live in Lexington, South Carolina.

Alan Mahrer graduated from Wahpeton State School of Science in Auto Body Mechanics. He operated his own shop in Park River before spending four years in the Naval Air Force. He graduated from the University of North Dakota with a degree in Electrical Engineering and is associated with Collins Rockwell at Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Alan and his wife, Nancy, are parents of April, Amber and Justin.

Michael Mahrer, C.P.A., graduated from U.N.D. with a B.S. Degree in Business Administration. He is the accountant for Radiology Limited of Tucson, Arizona.

Lu Ann (Mrs. Mark) Dudgeon received her B.A. Degree in Home Economics and an Associate Degree in Fashion from U.N.D. She was elected to Mortar Board as being active in campus life. She is the manager of Claire's Boutique in Columbia Mall in Grand Forks. She and her husband, Mark, are parents of Luke Anthony.

LLOYD MANDT



Lloyd and Doris (Kluxdal) Mandt



Lloyd Mandt family

Doris Kluxdal Mandt was born in Shepherd Township, Walsh County, in 1921, to Iver J. and Dina (Hamre) Kluxdal. At the age of 6, she moved with her mother, brothers and sisters to Park River. She attended elementary school and W.C.A.S., graduating in 1939. In 1941, she married Lloyd Mandt of Edinburg. After 2 years of living in Muskegon, Michigan, where Lloyd worked in defense plants, they returned to North Dakota and Lloyd became associated with the North Dakota State Seed Department, as a potato grade inspector, a position he held for over 30 years. They moved into the Minnie Masloski apartment in 1944 and in 1947 to their home on Veterans Avenue. Doris started work at the First State Bank in April, 1957 as a bookkeeper. In January, 1959 she became secretary, a position she held until her retirement in November, 1983.

Lloyd and Doris had 7 children as follows:

David, born in 1941, attended Park River grade school and WCAS, graduated from UND with a BS in Business Administration, served in the U.S. Air Force, being discharged as a Captain. In 1973, he married Donette Numedahl of Grafton. They have 4 sons, twins, Christopher and Cory, Craig and Kyle. They are currently living in Santa Maria, Calif., where David is employed as quality control officer for Federal Electric.

Diane, born in 1943 in Muskegon, Michigan, attended Park River grade school and graduated from WCAS. She is married to Daniel Lipsh who is shop manager at Cenex in Park River. Diane is employed at the Guest House. They have 3 children, David, Brian and Barbara.

Warren Paul, born in 1944, attended Park River grade schools, graduated from WCAS, and UND, with a BS in Business Administration. He is married to Nicolle Miller of Parshall, ND. He was employed by Wausau Insurance and lived for a time in Kansas City, MO. They returned to ND in 1968 and accepted a position with Farmers Union Insurance in Jamestown where they still reside. They have 4 children, Todd, Dawn, and twin daughters, Heather and Heidi. Paul has a C.P.C.U. degree in insurance.

Barbara Jean, born in 1945, died as the result of a street accident in August of 1950. She was 5 years old.

Adele, born in 1949, attended Park River grade schools, graduated from WCAS and Aaker's Business college. She was employed for a time at Whorley's Moving and Storage in Grand Forks. In 1973, she married David J. Olson of Kloten, ND. David is a mechanic for Stoudt Ford in Jamestown, ND where they now live. They are the parents of 3 children, Jennifer, Wade (born and died 1982) and Matthew.

Jean, born in 1951, attended Park River grade school,

graduated from WCAS and Aaker's Business College. She worked for the Pine to Prairie Girl Scouts until her marriage in 1972 to Lauren S. J. Selliken of Grafton, ND. She is now employed as an accountant for the Grand Forks Herald, and Lauren has his own contracting business. They live in Grand Forks and have no children.

Joyce, born in 1954, attended Park River grade school and graduated from WCAS. Upon her graduation from high school, she was employed by Polar Telephone, where she still is employed as an accountant. In 1972, she married Daryle Nickerson of Park River, who is employed at Park River Lumber. They are the parents of 2 children, Barry and Kristen.

JOHN AVERY MARTYN

John A. Martyn was the third of twelve children born to Thomas B. and Sarah Grace Martyn. John was born August 7, 1862 in Exeter, Huron Co., Ontario, Canada. He attended the Exeter schools as far as was offered in those days. Out of necessity, the men learned to survey, build, farm and care for their animals.

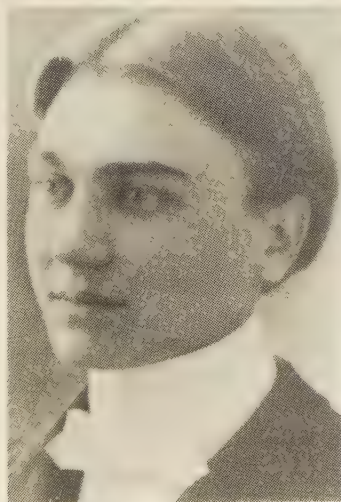
Ever since the United States Homestead Act was passed (March 2, 1861) John had watched people from Canada rushing to occupy the rich agricultural lands of the Red River of the North. Finally, John Harris, Sr., asked him to go with his family to this part of Dakota Territory. John Martyn accepted his offer, even though he was only eighteen years of age.

When they arrived in 1881, they found that most of the Canadians had taken 160 acre claims along the Park River. They wanted to be close together for protection from the Indians and the wild animals.

Here Mr. Harris filed on claims for each of his sons. With John Martyn's help they built a home and hauled lumber from Winnipeg, Canada.

In 1888 John Martyn married Henrietta Harris and lived along the river, too. She died three years later of tuberculosis. It was a time of many hardships, prairie fires, bitterly cold weather, small pox, lack of medicines, Indian skirmishes and typhoid fever. It was during the typhoid epidemic that John met Lulu Frances McLaughlin who became his second wife in 1892.

JOE MASLOSKI AND BARBERSHOP



Joe Masloski - 1900



Minnie Soll Masloski - 1903

Joe Masloski was born in Poland in 1880 and came to Park River in the early 1900s. His profession was barbering. He bought a building on main street in Park River and it contained his

barbershop on one side and a jewelry store on the other side. The jeweler's name was Carter. Joe and his family lived upstairs in the apartment for a few years and then moved to the Soll-Masloski farm about 1925.

Les Kelly of Park River worked with Joe as a barber and later became owner of the business after Joe died in 1936. In the 1920s there was a beauty shop in the barbershop area and the beautician was Helen Maiers. The building is now occupied by Ella Hanson's Beauty Shop and Montana Dakota Utilities in the old barbershop area. No one has lived in the apartment upstairs since Minnie's death in 1973. In 1968 Bill Chromy bought the barbershop business from Les Kelly and later moved from Park River about 1977. The barbershop area remained empty until 1981 when it was rented to Montana Dakota Utilities.

Joe married Minnie Soll of Park River on June 2, 1913 in Williston, N.D. Their attendants were Mr. and Mrs. Fred Ring. They had three daughters, Joyce (Boshart), Harriet (Agneberg) and Judy (Ritzel).

Joe was very fond of dogs and he had a dog called Jack, who was a large, black and wooly. Jack would follow Joe everyday when he walked to work at the barbershop. This dog would sit in the entryway connecting the barbershop and the jewelry shop and the customers were afraid of him. Joe's solution to the problem was to tie a few firecrackers to Jack's tail and light them. It frightened the dog so much he never followed Joe to the barbershop again.

MINNIE SOLL MASLOSKI



Minnie Soll Masloski with children, Harriet, Judy (in carriage) and Joyce.

Minnie Soll Masloski was born on a farm in a log cabin, 1½ miles west of Mountain, ND, February 9, 1885, and died at the age of 88 years. She resided her entire life in Park River. She was in the business of farming.

Her parents were Sander and Tillie (Schroeder) Soll, pioneers of Walsh County. She was a life-time member of the Mary C. Chapter of Eastern Star No. 20.

She married Joe Masloski, a barber in Park River, June 3, 1913, in Williston, ND. Their attendants were Mr. and Mrs. Fred Ring. They had three daughters, Joyce (Boshart), Harriet (Agneberg) and Judy (Ritzel).

Apparently Minnie enjoyed baseball as in June 1916 she attended a game between Fordville and Park River where Park River won 1 to 0. The next day she attended a game between Lankin and Park River (no score recorded).

She enjoyed playing golf, bridge and poker. Every spring she would have an annual bridge party that included all her card-playing friends and one of the delicacies she served was mocha squares -- sponge cake squares frosted with powdered sugar and butter, rolled in ground toasted almonds.

Minnie spent many, many hours using her great talent french embroidering delicate baby dresses and exquisite linen handkerchiefs.

She was also a great business person and ran the farming business after Joe's death in 1936 until she died in 1973.

JOYCE CICIAN MASLOSKI BOSHART

Joyce was born December 1, 1915 in Park River. Her parents were Joe and Minnie Masloski. When she was two years old she won a baby contest which was held in Park River.

She graduated from Park River High School when she was sixteen years old, having skipped two grades. She went immediately to the State Teachers College in Minot, ND. School was somewhat difficult for her since she was two years younger than most of the students, but she did very well scholastically and graduated second in her class. She also worked on the school newspaper and was active in her sorority. Later she went on to a year of graduate school at a Presbyterian College in Illinois. Her graduate work was done in the field of theology.

After graduate school she became a social worker in the slums of Chicago. Her friends were all horrified that she would walk through the slums at night without protection, but she always said that she was never afraid and no one ever bothered her.

When World War II began she felt that it was her duty to serve in any way that she could, so she joined the American Red Cross as a social worker and spent some time in Europe. Towards the end of the war she met her husband-to-be, Melvin W. Boshart. He was in a hospital with a hip injury and was a widower with a three-year old daughter, Melva Jean.

Her first child, Melinda Joyce, was born in 1949 while they were on an overseas tour of duty with the Army in Frankfurt, Germany. Her second child, Randall Joseph, was born in 1954 on another tour of duty in Germany.

In 1956 the family was transferred to Rapid City, SD where they lived until 1960, when they moved to Denver, Colorado. Melvin retired from the Army shortly after this and became Security Officer at the Rocky Mountain Arsenal for the next ten years. Joyce decided to go back to work and became a secretary at the Geological Survey in Denver. After several years she was promoted to a position formerly filled by a geologist and became a map editor.

She fell ill in January of 1973 of lung cancer and died in May of the same year.

HARRIET FRANCES MASLOSKI AGNEBERG

Harriet was born in Park River, ND, December 12, 1917. Her parents were Joe and Minnie Masloski.

Harriet graduated from Park River High School and attended Compton Junior College, Compton, California while living with her Grandmother, Tillie Soll. Harriet won second place in a Southern California typing contest while there.

From Junior College she worked at Douglas Aircraft Company, Santa Monica, California during World War II. April 12, 1947 she married Lars Leo Agneberg of Perth, ND. They have one child,

blue-eyed, blonde, Jomin Cindy Agneberg. Jomin's name was derived from her grandparents names, Joe and Minnie.

They bought their home in Whittier, California in 1952 and are still living there. They also have a home at Morongo Valley, California (near Palm Springs).

At the age of forty-nine Harriet went to work for the El Rancho Unified School District and retired from there at the age of sixty-three.

Some of the things she remembers about her home in Park River are: The annual maypole dance on Karl J. Farup's lawn with all participants dressed in beautiful costumes; having a love for cats and owning twenty-one of them on the farm; a great fear of horses; the long walk to school; the beautiful frost on the trees and walking in the snow drifts; the gophers, grasshoppers, potato parasites; the terrible winds; the beautiful twilight evenings; the memories of her father and mother struggling to survive the depression; in summer painting the barbershop pole; the good companionship of her sisters, Joyce and Judy.

JUDITH MAUREEN MASLOSKI RITZEL

Judy was born November 8, 1922 in Park River, ND. Her parents were Joe and Minnie Masloski. She lived in Park River until she was sixteen and then she moved to Compton, California where she lived with her grandmother, Tillie Soll. Judy attended Compton Junior College in Compton, California and then went to work for U.S. Electrical Motors in Los Angeles. This is where she met her husband of thirty-four years, Robert W. Ritzel. They were married July 15, 1949 in Los Angeles, California. In 1956 Bob was transferred to Colorado and they have made their permanent home in Arvada, a suburb of Denver.

Bob and Judy have three children; two boys and one girl. Terry Robert is the oldest son who now lives in Steamboat Springs, Colorado. He and his wife, Marion, have one son, Chase Robert. Thomas Kevin lives in Denver with his wife Lana. Both sons were born in Whittier, California. Their daughter Maureen Gail was born in Denver, Colorado. Maureen and Chase are the only Colorado natives in the Masloski heritage.

Bob started his own business in 1971 in Arvada, Colorado. The name of the business is E.M.S. Inc. and Judy is the Vice President and has done the secretarial work since they went into business.

Judy has many hobbies and some of these include sewing in which she is very talented just like her mother, Minnie Masloski, was. She swims (she learned how in the Park River) and loves to travel as much as possible. One of her many achievements is the fact that she learned how to play golf at the age of fifty-six and now she is an avid golfer.

Some of Judy's memories while living in Park River include: The wonderful summers swimming in the river at the dam where the railroad crosses over; walking three blocks to get fresh, cold water at a neighbor's well in the heat of the summer and returning home with grasshoppers swimming in the water; stopping at her dad's barbershop after school to read the funny papers in the Grand Forks Herald; the winters sometimes so cold that one just stayed in bed to keep warm but could read all day with mittens on.

VERNON MASTRE FAMILY

Vernon was born September 8, 1917 at Mandt, N.D. His parents were Simon and Minda Mastre.

His mother came from Norway at the age of 18. She worked in this area where she met Simon. They married and farmed the Mastre homestead where they lived the rest of their lives. Vernon



Vernon and Norma Mastre - Jan. 1971

had three brothers, Elliot, Clifford and Kermit. All deceased. Also a sister, Edna, deceased.

Vernon was baptized and confirmed at the Zion Lutheran Church. He attended school in Mandt.

He married Norma Gillespie on April 1, 1939, at Grafton, N.D. She was the last of ten children, born April 22, 1922, to Alexander and Emeline Gillespie, Rushford Township. She attended Rushford and Park River schools. She had two brothers, Harold (deceased), Duncan, now living in Holldenville, Oklahoma. Seven sisters, Jessie Lloyd (deceased), Ruth Nelson (deceased), Florence Kiellor (deceased), Sadie Behnkie (deceased), and Mildred (Marifjeren) of Park River. Two sisters died at the ages of five and eight.



L-R: front row: Ruth, Norma, Janice, Ronald. Back row: Donald, Kenneth, Robert - Aug. 29, 1981.

Vernon and Norma had eight children. Twin boys, Ronald and Donald, Robert, Kenneth, Ruth and Janice. Son, Daniel, died at the age of one year. Daughter, Betty, died at the age of seven months.

Donald married Jeanne Clemetson, daughter of Eddie and Myrtle Clemetson. They have two children, Michael and Jodie.

Ronald married Janice Bjornson, daughter of Sophus and Irene Bjornson. They have two children, Ricky and Patti.

Robert married Linda Veralrud, daughter of Guttrum and Ida Veralrud. They have three sons, Daniel, Mitchell and Robbie. They live in West Fargo, N.D.

Kenneth married JoAnn Dahl, daughter of Spencer and Ines Dahl. They have two children, Randy and Laura.

Janice married Wallace Skjoldal, son of Norman and Nora Skjoldal of Hoople, N.D. They have three children, Debbie, Lisa and Brian. They live in Phoenix, Arizona.

Ruth married Lee Elznic, son of the late William Elznic, Jr., and Mrs. Louis (Lorraine) Papenfuss of Park River.

Vernon played shortstop on the Mandt baseball team for a number of years and was a member of the Walsh County Curling Club. He worked as a farm laborer in the Mandt area until they moved to Park River in 1956.

He worked for the City of Park River for several years and then, with Snares Plumbing and Heating during the installation of

Borden's Potato Flake Factory at Grafton.

Norma worked at the St. Ansgar's Hospital as a cook for several years. They operated Mastre's Drive Inn for four years and owned Mastre's Trailer Court for eight years.

Norma works part time as a nurse's aide at the Good Samaritan Center in Park River.

Vernon died April 6, 1971.

GARFIELD J. MAURITSON



Garfield J. Mauritsen - 1921



Ruth Coulter Mauritsen - 1921

Garfield John Mauritsen was born in Shelly, Minn., in 1891. He spent his early life in that community and came to Park River in 1917 where he was employed by the Farmers Security Bank. He served in the Army in World War I in 1918 and 1919, and returned to Park River as assistant cashier at the Farmers Security Bank.

He married Ruth Coulter, the third child of Joseph and Johanna Coulter, in 1921. Garfield served in the Farmers Security Bank until it joined First State Bank of Park River in the early 1930's. He was acting as cashier of the bank when it was robbed in 1931. He was transferred to the bank in Glen Ullin, N.D. in 1933 but returned to Park River in 1935, to work for Farup Auto Company. He started as a rural mail carrier from the Park River Post Office in 1938 and in 1944 he left that position to become the postmaster. He served as postmaster until his death in 1957.

Garfield was active in community affairs. He was a charter member of Paul Farup Post No. 147, Civic Club, Mason, Golf Club and the Presbyterian Church.

Ruth Mauritsen was a charter member of the American Legion Auxiliary, a member of the P.E.O. Sisterhood, Chapter Q, Eastern Star and the Presbyterian Church. She enjoyed her family, knitting, sewing and until china became hard to obtain during World War II she did some china painting. She died in

1973.

Garfield and Ruth Mauritsen raised three daughters, Maxine (Kassing), Gail (Meberg) and Leona (Walstad).

THE McCAULEY FAMILY



James Samuel McCauley family: Harriet and James McCauley, Florence, Bertha and William.

James Samuel McCauley was born in Omagha, Ireland, in 1854. He left his native land and migrated to Canada. He married Harriet Barker in 1878, a native of Ontario, Canada. In 1880 the couple moved to the United States, making their home for two years in East Grand Forks, Minnesota. In 1882, the family moved to a farm northeast of Park River. They lived there a few years and then built a home in Park River where he operated a feed store and livery stable. Children born to Mr. and Mrs. McCauley were Elizabeth, who died in infancy, Florence (Dilworth), Bertha (Wilson) and William. Mr. McCauley's wife Harriet died in 1910. In 1912, he married Mary Burbidge. They had two nieces, Louise and Catherine, who made their home with them since infancy. Mary died in 1926 and James in 1932. He had one sister, Bella (Mrs. Frank Harris) and two brothers, William of Park River and Joseph of Quebec.

WILLIAM AND IVA MAE McCAULEY

William James McCauley, the son of James S. and Harriet McCauley, was born in 1884 in Park River, N.D. He spent his lifetime in this area except for living in Canada for a time.

In 1906 he married Iva Mae Cameron and they lived on his father's farm, east of Park River, in Kensington Township. The family moved to Sceptre, Sask., Canada, for awhile where he farmed and managed a grain elevator. When the family came back from Canada they returned to the same farm, east of Park River.

Children born to William and Iva Mae McCauley were four sons, Wilbur J., Fordyce C., Raymond B. and James A., and two daughters, Mildred D. Borkenhagen and Harriet E. Moen.

Iva Mae McCauley died in 1941. Bill continued to live on the farm and in 1948 he married Anna Reeson who died in 1964.

William McCauley served as an assessor for Kensington Township and was a member of the Kensington School Board. William McCauley has, besides his six children, 18 grandchildren and 33 great-grandchildren. Mr. McCauley died in 1970.

MILDRED McCAULEY BORKENHAGEN



Mildred and Herbert Borkenhagen

Mildred, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William McCauley of Park River, ND, was born in Canada but grew up and graduated from WCAS in Park River. After graduating from high school she attended Beauty School owned and operated a Beauty Shop in Park River for many years, it was known as Mildred's Beauty Shop.

In 1944 she married Herbert Borkenhagen from Ray, ND and they now live in Grinnell, Iowa. They have five children: Lynda (Mrs. Jeff Heebner), Donald, Kay (Mrs. Ed Middlestead), Robert and Diane (Mrs. David Billman). They have 10 grand children.

WILBUR AND MURIEL McCAULEY



Wilbur and Muriel McCauley

Wilbur was born September 5, 1909, in Kensington Township, the oldest son of William and Iva McCauley. He moved with his family to Saskatchewan, Canada, in 1913, where his father homesteaded. The family returned home in 1930.

Muriel Ford McCauley was born in Kensington Township, January 16, 1914, the oldest of eight children born to David J. and Janet Robb Ford. She attended Kensington School for eight years and then WCAS where she graduated in 1932. In 1933-34, she attended Mayville State Teachers College and returned to teach the home school for three years, having four of her own brothers and sisters as students. Then for two years, she taught in the Tongue River School at Cavalier.

In 1939, Wilbur and Muriel were married. They farmed until 1951, when Wilbur began buying grain for Peavey Co., first at Merrifield, ND. In 1954, they moved to Nielsville, MN. Muriel taught school at Climax, MN. Wilbur bought grain for 21 years, Muriel taught school for 28 years. They have two children - Ronald of Cottage Grove, MN, who has four children and two grandsons, and Loretta Johnson of Maplewood, MN. She is a nurse, having graduated from the University at Grand Forks.

In 1982, Wilbur and Muriel moved from Nielsville back to Park River and reside on the David Ford farm.



Thomas and Sarah Meagher

when it was sold by Duncan.

The Meagher family was active in city, county, church and civic affairs for many years. Thomas was city alderman for many years, Alex was county commissioner for several terms and Duncan was mayor of Park River 1946 until 1950. There was a Meagher in the Park River school system for seventy-five years, from the time that Arthur started school in 1908 until Kim Meagher, a great granddaughter of Thomas and Sarah, finished in 1983.

Thomas and Sarah Meagher are now both deceased and of the children, Arthur and Alex are deceased. Edith lives in Devils Lake, Anna lives in Grand Forks, Myrtle lives in Worland, Wyoming and Duncan spends his time between Park River, Mesa, Arizona and Park Rapids, Minn.

John A. Meagher, a grandson of Thomas and Sarah, and son of Alex and Margaret Meagher, still resides in Park River. He married Janice Freedland of Grafton. They are the parents of two children, Robert and Kimberly.

Duncan and Virginia Meagher's children, Susan and Nancy, are both married and living in North Dakota and Minnesota. Susan married Jay Myster and they are the parents of three children, Douglas, Shannon Jayne and Robert. Nancy married Larry Budish and they have two children, Stephanie and Bradley.

LULU FRANCES McLAUGHLIN

Lulu F. McLaughlin was born May 22, 1870 in Greenbrier, West Virginia. She had come to Park River when she was sixteen years old to keep house for her two brothers, William and Clark McLaughlin. They had filed on tree claims about five miles from the present Lankin, North Dakota. When her brothers married, she went to school in Inkster, ND where she finished the eighth grade. She then went to Park River to learn to make ladies' clothing. While there she suffered typhoid fever. Most of the patients were taken to the Windsor Hotel and those that were well, cared for them. As stated before, this is where she met John Martyn, who also had typhoid fever.

After their marriage they lived east of Park River. When their four children, Mable and Maud (1893), Opal (1897) and Dewey (1899) were born, John Martyn sold his crop, etc., to Robert Arnot and bought a farm near Lulu's brothers. Their first home was leveled by a tornado, so they moved out and rented the land to some Bohemians. They went back to Park River and farmed west of there until they retired in 1918.

They were happy to be back with their Canadian friends again. John Martyn was an alderman and was a faithful worker for the betterment and development of Park River, Walsh County, ND.

At one time, he owned the farm near Lankin, ND, land near Ryder, ND, oil property in Winnie, Texas and a four acre home in town. They invested in their children's education which was almost like a religion to them. They supported the Methodist Church and helped finance Wesley College in Grand Forks.

Besides his four children, he reared his niece, Myrtle B. Wildfong, his sister's daughter.

John and Lulu Martyn had five grandchildren and thirteen great-grandchildren.

THOMAS AND SARAH MEAGHER

Thomas and Sarah Meagher moved to Park River from the Crystal, N.D. area in 1908 so they could be closer to school. There were six children in the Meagher family, Arthur, Anna (Mrs. Charles Harris), Alex, Duncan, Myrtle (Mrs. Frank Myers) and Edith (Mrs. Elmo Ellingson).

Thomas started a Farm Implement business in Park River in 1913 under the name of Meagher and Shepherd, which was later changed to T.F. Meagher and Son, which was continued until 1963



Susan (Meagher) Myster, Jay Myster, holding Douglas, Shannon Jayne and Robert.



Nancy (Meagher) Budish, Larry Budish, Bradley and Stephanie

DAVID MARTIN AND ALICE C. MEBERG



L-R standing: Paul, David, Urby
Seated: Bonnie, Marion, Alice, Ruth, Margrete

David Meberg was born in Denny Dalton, South Africa on Oct. 26, 1895. His parents were missionaries in South Africa for seven years but returned to Norway when the Boer War broke out. He was educated at Farsund, Norway and came to the United States in the spring of 1914. His brothers, Jacob and Ben and two aunts in the Fordville area caused him to come to North Dakota. He was trained as a carpenter, so he got work with Edward Herwick, a contractor at Park River.

He was a veteran of World War I and was in France for 10 months. After the war he worked for Herwick again.

David married Alice C. Flaten, the daughter of Paul A. Flaten on Nov. 25, 1920. They were the parents of two sons, Paul and David U. (Urby) and four daughters, Margrete, (Mrs. W.C. Skjerven), Alice, (Bonnie), Mrs. Paul Leis of Elbow Lake, Minn.; Marion, (Mrs. Merle Onstad) and Ruth, (Mrs. Burt Kingsley, of Arlington Heights, Ill.

In 1925, David began contracting on his own. He built houses, barns, potato warehouses or whatever needed building. He was the contractor and builder for the Legion Coliseum in Park River; the Walsh County Press building; the old Park River High School Gymnasium and St. Catherine Church at Lomice, west of Lankin. In 1942, all building materials were used for the war effort so his crew went to the west coast for ship building. He purchased land in 1938 6 miles west of Park River. He

farmed during World War II. He continued to farm until he retired in 1972 and rented his land to his sons who farm as Meberg Brothers. David was the overseer of the building of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in 1952-53. David held several offices in Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, American Legion and the Odd Fellows Lodge. He served the City of Park River for 40 years, being a member of the school board, Park Board and as a city alderman.

Alice Flaten Meberg, daughter of Paul A. and Elizabeth Swenson Flaten, was born Dec. 19, 1898 in Fertile Township. She graduated from Concordia Academy in Moorhead, Minn. and taught school in rural Fertile Township school.

Alice was very active in Our Saviour's Lutheran Church both in Ladies Aid and in the Sunday School. She taught Sunday School for twenty years and was superintendent for several years. She was active in Civic affairs and the American Legion Auxiliary and Harmony Homemakers.

Alice died in April, 1953 and David died in January, 1974.

PAUL MEBERG

Paul Meberg was born in Grafton January 6, 1922. He lived in Park River all his life. He graduated from WCAS and had two years at North Dakota State University.

He worked seven years as a carpenter with his father, David Meberg. In 1947 he went into partnership with his brother, Urby, and farmed as Meberg Brothers,

Paul married Lorraine Kjos, daughter of Oscar and Bertha Kjos, on July 17, 1947. Their children are Mark, Luther, Laura (Mrs. David Langemo), who lives in Fargo, Eric and Peter. Lorraine died of cancer in March of 1974.

In 1949 Meberg Brothers and Flaten brothers built potato storage. In 1963 Mebergs bought out Flatens and have operated as Meberg Potato Co. since.

Paul married Ardell Reinholt Lee April 3, 1976. Her children are Mary (Mrs. Ron Garceau of Sunnyside, WA), Ralph of Mayville, Margaret of Sunnyside, Wash., and Richard.

In 1979, Paul's kidneys gave out and he had to go on dialysis machine for six hours, three times a week. Ardell is his nurse and the machine is in their home.

He is still farming as Meberg Brothers and his sons, Luther and Eric, are also farming near Park River.

BERTHA AND J. W. (BILLY) METZ

ANDY METZ



Bertha and J.W. (Billy) Metz



Andy Metz - 1925

Billy Metz was born in Minnesota in 1867. He resided in Park River in the early 1900's and worked in the Park River Milling Company. He married Bertha Schroeder of Mountain, ND, a sister of Tillie Soll.

At one time Billy was on the board of trustees in Park River and also mayor of Park River. He was an alderman from 1901-1912, and was elected mayor of Park River in 1912.

Andy Metz, Billy's brother, was born in Minnesota in 1875. He resided with Bertha and Billy Metz in the early 1900's and also worked in the Park River Milling Company.

About 1927, Bertha, Billy and Andy moved to Minot, ND to work in a flour mill there.

THE MIDDENDORF FAMILY

Bernard Middendorf was born in Osnabrock, Germany in 1856. In 1885, he married Dina Dwanger, who was born in Basenbrock, Germany in 1861. The couple came to this country and lived for three years in Cincinnati, Ohio. Bernard wanted to be a farmer so they came to Walsh County in 1888 and resided in Tiber Township for a year, then moved to Golden Township where they homesteaded.



L-R: Ben, Bernard, George, Dina, Ella and Mary.

Mrs. Middendorf died July 19, 1941. Bernard died December 27, 1947 in the farm home where they had lived for over half a century. At the time of his death, Bernard Middendorf was the oldest member of St. Mary's Catholic Church.

The Middendorf's had four children, Mary, Ella, Ben and George. George was the only one to leave Park River. He went away to school and after he was married, he and his wife, Beatrice, moved to Arizona. They were living in Chico, California when he died in 1971.

Mary lived on the farm with her parents until the death of her father, when she moved into Park River, where she resided until her death, November 25, 1968.

Ella married John A. Dunn and lived in Park River until she moved to Park Rapids, MN., about two years before her death on September 30, 1979.

Ben married Viola Gowan and made his home in Park River, but he still farmed with his father. After the death of his father, he continued to manage the family farm and his own land until illness forced retirement. He died December 29, 1981.

BEN AND VIOLA MIDDENDORF



Leo, Viola and Ben Middendorf

Ben Middendorf, the son of Bernard and Dina Middendorf, was born in Golden Township. He married Viola Gowan, of Forest River, N.D., in November, 1925. They lived in Park River all of their married life, active in community affairs. Ben served as Walsh County Commissioner for many years.

They have one son, Leo, who resides in Walla Walla, Washington.

Ben died December 29, 1981. Viola is now a resident of the Good Samaritan Home.

DAVID MILLS AND MYRTLE FINNESETH



David Mills and Myrtle Finneseth.

Robert Charters Mills and Esther Hunter Mills came from Ontario, Canada. They filed on land in Vernon Township, Walsh County, in 1886. They lived on their farm until 1919 when they retired to Park River. They had 5 children; David, Mary, Olive, Elsie and Harriet - four of whom graduated from Park River High School.

In 1918 David Mills and Myrtle Finneseth were married. Both of them had been employed at the First National Bank of Park River after graduating from Park River High School and (in Myrtle's case) business college in Grand Forks. After leaving the bank, David went into business with Clarke Farup. They had automobile agencies in both Park River and Grafton where they sold Fords, as well as providing mechanical services and accessories. They also operated several farms near Park River. Myrtle was a charter member of Park River's Chapter Q of the P.E.O. Sisterhood and maintained her membership until her death.

David and Myrtle Mills had four children; Mark, Harriet, Marjorie and Robert. The children spent their childhood in Park River where they attended the local school and were members of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church until 1936 when the family moved to California. The children finished high school in Southern California and attended various colleges in the area - Loyola University, Whittier College, Pasadena City College and University of Southern California.

Mark and Robert both served in the armed forces during World War II. Mark enlisted in the Royal Air Force and went to Canada for his pilot's training about one year before Pearl Harbor. After staying for some time in Canada and instructing other pilots, he was sent to England and flew many fighter missions over France. At the end of the war, only Mark and one other pilot had survived out of his entire class of those who took their training together. Robert enlisted in the U.S. Air Force after the outbreak of hostilities with Japan, but was allowed to finish his college education under the auspices of the Air Force.

During the time the Mills family resided in Park River, they lived in the house at 414 Code Avenue South now owned by Olaf Malde. David Mills died in 1937 and Myrtle in 1982, at the age of 91. Harriet is retired after a lifetime career in education as a First Grade teacher and the last 12 years as a reading specialist with the Monterey Peninsula School District. Marjorie (Mrs. Tom Ballard) is secretary to the Commanding Officer of the U.S. Navy's Fleet Numerical Oceanography Center in Monterey. Both Harriet and Marjorie make their homes in Pacific Grove. Robert and his wife, the former Jo Shaw, currently live in Jakarta,

Indonesia, where he is president and general manager of Mobile Oil Indonesia. They previously lived in Libya and Nigeria for a total of 10 years, then 3 years in Denver. They have four children; Laura, Julie, John and Anne.

Mark is survived by his wife, Cecelia and three children, Leni, David and Robert and by one grandchild, Lauri.

Submitted by Harriet Mills

MEMORIES OF A PARK RIVER CHILDHOOD

How fondly I remember my childhood in Park River, as my sister and brother remember theirs. We recall the excitement of summer, with the prospect of so many things to do! There were picnics by the river, with families and friends gathered around for the good things to be shared. There were large and colorful posters proclaiming the coming of "The Greatest Show on Earth." Best of all was to be on the scene when the circus train arrived, and to watch the unloading activities. It was fascinating to see the great elephants as they helped with the huge poles, and to marvel at the main tent as it was put up. Then down Main Street would come the clowns, the animals in rainbow-colored cages, and the calliope -- with the children following behind in their own raggle-taggle parade. The circus itself was almost an anti-climax to these marvelous happenings, although who could deny the excitement of the trapeze acts, the lion tamer and the circus ponies! The visit to the menagerie after the show was to be our introduction to some of the marvelous animals we would later see in zoos in big cities--we saw them first in Park River. The Fourth of July celebration was looked forward to with great anticipation--it meant a parade with bands, flags, red-white-and-blue bunting, and stands for popcorn and lemonade. Everyone turned out for it! Even the long speeches in the afternoon, in the park, weren't so bad because of the excitement which crackled like electricity in the air on this wonderful day. Sometimes a travelling carnival would come to town, complete with merry-go-round and ferris wheel, games of skill and games of chance. The evening brought a spectacular display of fireworks.

Soon after the opening of school in the Fall came Halloween, when "Trick or Treat" meant just that! Treats were apples or nuts or homemade goodies, and tricks were harmless but exciting fun. We would try to soap a window and not get caught, to stick a pin in a neighbor's doorbell, or to roll a genuine homemade wooden spool "clacker" against a window with a spine-tingling sound. One hard-working group of pranksters completely emptied a farmer's wagon of its load of sacks of grain, hoisted the wagon up to the top of his barn and then reloaded it! Nothing can compare with Autumn in Walsh County -- the falling leaves of every unbelievable hue, the crispness of the clear cool air, and the marvelous aroma of burning leaves in backyard bonfires. One could walk for blocks for the sheer joy of hearing the snap of the leaves as they were crushed between shoe and sidewalk. Jumping headfirst into a large pile of leaves was even better.

Winter was a time for sleigh rides, for hitching rides on bob sleds, for taffy pulls, for skating and skiing, for playing hockey with a broom stick and a tin can, or for tobogganing down the hill behind Birder's house and across the frozen river. Our mother told us that when she was a girl, her father would flood their yard to form an ice rink, and -- if the snow was deep enough -- snow would be packed in to make a slide coming down from the hayloft door. It was worth all the trouble for the wonderful sport of taking a sled up the ladder, then sliding down the snow slide, across the ice and out to the street! Children played "King of the

Mountain," built snow houses and tunnels, played marvelous games making patterns in the snow. Milk never tasted better than after we brought it in from our back door, with the paper cap sitting about two inches up from the top of the glass bottle, because the "top milk" was frozen! The milkman was a welcome sight with his horse and sleigh, as he was with his wagon in less extreme weather. His horse always seemed to know where to stop. Christmas meant walking to church in the crisp, moonlit night across the crusted snow, which made such a wonderful sound beneath our feet. Finally settled in their seats, proud parents could see their children re-enact the First Christmas to the accompaniment of childish voices and watch as each one received a gift from the enormous tree that seemed nearly to fill the church. Then home again through the clear and starry night we came, to hang the stockings which by morning would bulge interestingly with fruit, nuts and wonderful surprises -- sometimes a silver dollar in the toe! Some of us remember when Santa Claus used to ride into town on a big bob sled, from which he would hand out small bags of hard candy -- the little pillows with the soft centers, the ones with the design which went all the way through, and the fascinating and colorful ribbon candy. Never mind that the bob sled looked strangely like Louis Kotaska's dray, and that there were horses instead of reindeer -- it was Santa, all right. It was Christmas, and it was magic!

Spring meant there were no longer any hopes of being snowbound and therefore unable to go to school. However, there were compensations. The days were beginning to be a little longer, and it was possible to stay out later to play. The icicles were melting on the eaves of our house, and the drops were shining in the sun. The snow was beginning to look tired and dirty and kind of worn out. but it was still serviceable for a rather gray-looking snowman with carrot nose and eyes of coal. There was great excitement when someone sighted the first crocus of the season, and the first robin. The approach of Easter was always marked by a visit to the store for a new dress or suit of clothes, and best of all, for new shoes. We would walk around with our eyes looking down to see if any smudges or scuffs had appeared. Spring was a very good time for mud pies - after the snow had melted and the slush had gone away, and after a few balmy days had warmed the mud to just the right temperature, it was the perfect consistency for all manner of pastries baked in the sun on leaves, jar lids and bottle caps - generously sprinkled with sand from the sand box or something more exciting from a spice box our mother had discarded.

Walsh County is a wonderful place to be born and spend one's childhood -- I really can't imagine anyone ever having a better home town than Park River. It has been many years now since my family moved away, but my sister and brother and I have very fond memories of our childhood and on many occasions when we are together, we reminisce about it. Although I have now lived three-quarters of my life in California, I remember Park River so dearly that sometimes I can almost remember what a snowflake tastes like, or what the hard-crusted snow sounded like as we walked over it, or the indescribable appeal of the smoke curling up from autumn bonfires, or fireworks in the clear summer sky.

I'm so grateful that my maternal and paternal grandparents had the foresight to settle in Park River when it was just beginning, that my parents had the wisdom to stay after their marriage to raise their children there, and that we have such lovely memories of our Park River childhood.

These reminiscences are dedicated to the memory of Mr. and Mrs Robert C. Mills, Mr. and Mrs. Christen L. Finneseth, Mr. and Mrs. David Mills and Mark Mills.

Harriet G. Mills (for Marjorie and Robert)

DR. J.G. MILLSPAUGH

Dr. Millspaugh was one of the original doctors in the city of Park River. Born February 19, 1851, in Battle Creek, Michigan, he graduated from Hope College in 1872 and from the University of Michigan Medical Department in 1876. Upon completion of further study in the Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons, Millspaugh practiced in Battle Creek from 1877 to 1882. In 1879 he married Anna Zang; they had three children.

His official biography states that he came to Dakota for reasons of health, but the doctor was more forthright in his reminiscences—he states that he suffered a nervous breakdown. He moved to the Garfield area with the intent of living on a farm and doing no practice for a couple years to regain his health. A laborer on the farm gave away his secret, however, and Millspaugh soon found himself in demand for emergency and other work. He stated that “at the end of two years I was too poor to go back except on a tie pass.”

When the town of Garfield moved to the new site of Park River, Millspaugh left his farm and set up practice in the new city. As a doctor, he was not alone in Park River. Dr. Melville “a very scholarly gentleman and a capable physician” was also in practice as was Dr. James Robertson who owned a drugstore and did some prescribing (Millspaugh terms Dr. Robertson “an exempt”, probably indicating that Robertson had been practicing so long that he did not need to go through the new licensing procedures.) Also mentioned was Dr. Albert Sanderson from Toronto. All of these men died before Millspaugh left the state. In fact, Drs. Melville and Sanderson were buried on the same day, a situation that earned Millspaugh some undeserved ribbing from his colleagues.

Dr. Millspaugh was elected as the first chairman of the city board of Trustees in 1885 and served on the board until the late 1880's. He is better known, though for his contributions to the practices of medicine in the state: he was as his biographer described him, “The acknowledged father of organized medicine in North Dakota.” Under his leadership the North Dakota Medical Association was organized in Larimore. In recognition for this leadership the Association elected him its first president in 1888, and re-elected him for two more one-year terms. He is the only man to hold this office for more than one year. He was also the first Superintendent of the State Board of Health.

In 1891 Dr. Millspaugh and his family moved to Little Falls, Minnesota. He was still living in 1925.



Rolf and Rebecca Moan and Christopher Robert



Gregory John, Rae Lynn, Christopher Thomas, and Karring Tyler

The John C.H. Moan family came to Park River in the fall of 1952 from Moorhead, Minn., where John had taught voice and piano in the Fargo Branch of the Concordia Conservatory of Music.

John (1911-1982) was born at Lake Park, Minn., graduated from Lake Park High School and Concordia College, and spent four years in the U.S. Army. In 1944, John and Lillian Felde were married. They lived in New York state while he studied and received his Masters Degree and Professional Diploma from Teachers College, Columbia University. A perennial student, John studied music at colleges, clinics and master classes throughout his whole life. He taught vocal music and piano at Walsh County Agricultural School for 20 years; also taught



John C.H. Moen at the organ.



Lillian Moen and Dikka Ballantine

private voice, piano and organ in towns in the Park River area. His hobbies were gardening and photography.

For many years John was director of the Federated Church Choir and organist-choir director at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church.

Lillian (1912-) was born at Barnesville, Minn., graduated from high school there and from St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minn. She worked in the State 4-H Club Office at NDSU for many years. In Park River, Lillian directed childrens' choirs at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, sang in choir, taught Sunday School and was involved with ALCW. She was also a 4-H Club leader for seven years.

Dikka, Gregory and Rolf attended school at Park River Elementary School and graduated from WCAS. Dikka (1945-) graduated from Concordia College and taught art and home economics for several years. She now lives and works in Bellevue, Washington.

Gregory (1947-) attended UND and Concordia College. He is married to Rae Lynne Thiele of East Grand Forks, Mn. They have two sons, Christopher Thomas and Karring Tyler. Gregory works for Johnson Potato Sales.

Rolf (1951-) graduated from Luther College in Decorah, Iowa. He received his Masters Degree from the University of Illinois-Urbana. Rolf is head of the music department at Amos Alonzo Stagg High School, Palos Hills, Ill., where he teaches vocal music and helps coach the golf team. He is married to Rebecca White of Gurnee, Ill. They live at Palos Park, Ill., and have one son, Christopher Robert.

In 1969 Lillian was in Norway visiting relatives and seeking out John's relatives. In 1973 they went together to Sweden and Norway, visiting and singing. Their circle of travel in Norway included Olso, Bergen, Nordfjordeid, Aalen, Gjovik, Fetsund and Fredrikstad. They visited relatives at Uddevaala, Sweden. Lillian was also in Norway in 1979 with her sister, Eva, and they met their Felde "slegtninger" at Byrkjelo, visited Trondheim and viewed the source of the Glomma River near Aalen besides visiting the uncles, aunts and cousins.

VILHELM(WILLIAM) K. MOMERAK



Vilhelm and Odelia Momerak

Vilhelm K. Momerak, the son of Kjetil A. and Karoline (Svenkenson) Momerak. Kjetil was born Aug. 24, 1854 in Tyrisdale, Telemarken, Norway. He came to America on May 10, 1882. He married Karoline Svenkenson, who was born Oct. 26, 1868 in Daustan County, Minnesota.

Kjetil and Karoline had ten children, Evold, Birgit, Gunder, Vilhelm, Signe, Carl, Edwin, Andrew, Gustav and Konrad. One child died in infancy. Kjetil died at the farm home near Park River July 26, 1919.

Karoline passed away in Park River on Aug. 9, 1947. Vilhelm was born Nov. 2, 1893 at the farm home in Golden Township and attended the Township School. He was a member of the Golden Valley Lutheran Church. He married Odelia Olive Dahl on March 21, 1928 in Grafton. They made their home in Park River where Vilhelm worked as a carpenter.

Odelia Olive Dahl was born in Auburn, N.D. to Ole and Olina Bjorge Dahl on March 19, 1909. Odelia was one of fourteen children. Odelia attended school in Auburn and Hoople. She moved to Park River with her parents, where her father worked as a farm laborer. She attended high school in Park River for two years. She married Vilhelm in 1928 and moved to the farm near the homestead in Vesta Township. They lived on the farm for about five years and then moved back to Park River where they have lived since.

Vilhelm worked in a shipyard in Seattle, Wash., the winter of 1941, other than that he continued to work as a carpenter until he retired in 1970.

Vilhelm and Odelia had seven children. Wallace, a carpenter, is married to Elda Peterson. They have three children. Harvey, First Vice President of 1st American Bank and Trust in Grafton, is married to Phyllis Crandel. They have two children.

Donna is married to Eugene Evenson and they have six children and six grandchildren. They live in Brainerd, Minnesota.

Ordean, employed by Minot Daily News, is married to Donna Matcha. They have seven children and eight grandchildren.

Bernice, a Licensed Practical Nurse at St. Ansgar's Hospital in Park River, is married to Glen Dahl. They have seven children and eleven grandchildren.

Wilma married Gordon Gemmill of Edinburg, N.D. They have six children and five grandchildren.

Leonard, a carpenter in Grafton, is married to Adele Cudmore. They have three children.

Vilhelm and Odelia Momerak were members of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in Park River. Vilhelm died Oct. 5, 1976 in Park River. Odelia died Jan. 12, 1984 in Park River.

JOHN AND BERTHA MONTAGUE

John Luke Montague was born near Rio, Wisconsin on April 6, 1878, the son of Patrick and Catherine (Martin) Montague. He was the oldest of seven children, James and Jennie Lane, who resided in Fall River, Wisc., Mary Weite, Wells, Minn., Arthur of Minneapolis, Charles of Tolna, N.D. and Emma McGillis of California. All are deceased but Arthur.

Bertha Montague was born in Wisconsin on December 18, 1877, the daughter of Fred and Bertha Holzinger. The family lived in Wisconsin until 1880 when they came to North Dakota and homesteaded on a farm four and one-half miles west of Park River in Golden Township. Their other children were Fred, Charles, Mary Wanke and Emma Walper. All are deceased.

Bertha and John met in Starkweather, N.D., where they both worked. They were married in St. Mary's Church in Park River on November 18, 1903. Later the family farmed at Lawton, N.D. and in Minnesota for a number of years. In 1919 they bought the Claus Bornholdt farm in Golden Township and lived there until 1936, when they retired and moved to Park River.



Mr. and Mrs. John Montague

They had one son, Earl, who married Inga Strand, who had one daughter, Linda.

Bertha passed away in 1953 and John in 1960. They are buried in Calvary Cemetery of Park River.

EARL AND INGA MONTAGUE



Earl and Inga Montague

Earl Patrick Montague was born in Webster, N.D. on March 28, 1905 to Bertha and John Montague. The family lived at Lawton, N.D. for several years before moving to Thief River Falls, Minn. Earl received his education in the grades and high school at Thief River Falls.

In 1919 the family returned to North Dakota and bought a farm in Golden Township. They made their home there until they retired in 1936, when Earl took over the farm.

Inga Cecelie Strand was born in Edmore, N.D. on Oct. 20, 1904, the daughter of Karen and Andrew Strand. Her family bought a farm in Golden Township in 1917. She graduated from WCAS, Park River and attended Mayville State Teacher's College for three years. She taught school for ten years before her marriage to Earl.

On June 25, Earl and Inga were married at the home of her parents, with Rev. P.O. Laurhammer performing the ceremony. They lived on the farm until his death on August 24, 1954.

They were members of the Garfield Lutheran Church and he is buried in the Garfield Cemetery.

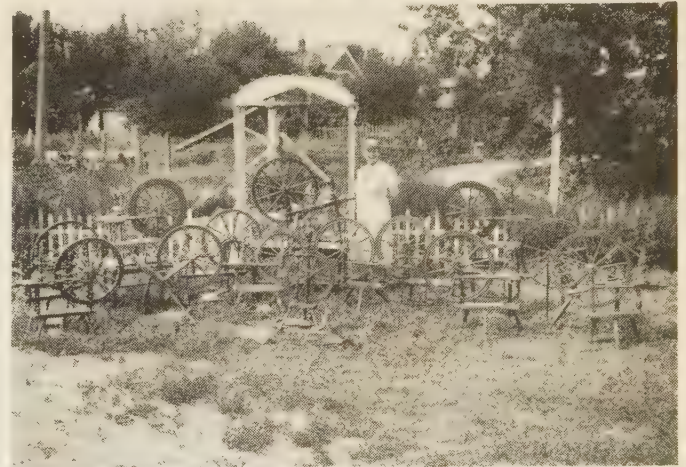
After the death of her husband, Inga moved to Park River in November of 1954, and has made her home there since. In the fall of 1955, she went back to teaching and taught for fifteen years at the Park River Elementary School, retiring in 1970.

Inga and Earl had one daughter, Lynda Faye, born June 12, 1944. She attended Jamestown College before her marriage to Dr. Harold Harris, July 26, 1963. Both Lynda and Harold are graduates of WCAS, Park River and he received his doctorate at the University of Iowa at Iowa City, IA. They make their home in Littleton, CO. where he has his dental practice. Their family includes three children, Leslie Ann, a junior at Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO; Jeffrey Harold, a sophomore at Luther College at Decorah, IA and Douglas Earl, at home.

NESTE FAMILY



Ole and Inga Neste



Mrs. Ole Neste with her collection of spinning wheels

Ole Neste came from Valdres, Norway, with his family at the age of 12. They settled in Decorah, Iowa, for a short time, then moved to Union, N.D. and filed a homestead claim. The family consisted of six boys and three girls. Ole Neste went to Park River and served as meat cutter for the Sander Soll meat market. Later he owned and operated a meat and grocery store of his own. In the early 1900's he purchased a huge buffalo from South Dakota which he displayed on Main Street in front of his market. The meat sold for \$1.00 a pound. Mr. Neste was an ardent hunter and trapper as a hobby and he won many prizes for

marksmanship.

He married Inga Forgard who also came from Norway at the age of 5 and whose parents drove an oxen team to Golden Valley, where they homesteaded. Ole and Inga had nine children; Eli, Gertrude, Melvin, Esther, Naomi, Ruth, Alyce, Jerome and Roy.

In later years, Mrs. Neste owned and operated the U.T.C. Hotel in Park River and in 1925 purchased the Windsor Hotel, which establishment she was associated with until her death in January of 1958. Mrs. Neste's hobby was collecting old spinning wheels. She had 18, the oldest 200 years old, all imports from Norway. She had a demonstration of spinning given at her Windsor Hotel with two of the wheels being used. So famous had she become with this hobby, that she was invited to appear on the Hobby Lobby radio show in New York, through the courtesy of a former Park River man, David Elman.

Mrs. Neste was a charter member of the Degree of Honor Lodge. Mr. Neste was a charter member of the Odd Fellows and Workmen Lodges.

Since Ole Neste was in business on Main Street (now Briggs Avenue) there has always been a Neste in business there; when Mrs. Neste died, her daughter, Esther Neste Knutson, operated the Windsor Hotel. Gertrude Neste Wilson operated a dress shop. Naomi Neste Kitze operated a Fashion Shop, which was later purchased by Helen and Roy Neste. Roy Neste is an attorney with his office on the former named Main Street and Lee Neste runs a clothing store, known as Melvin's Store for Men, which he had purchased from his father, Melvin, who had been in business over 15 years.

OLE JENSON FORGARD

Ole Jensen Forgard arrived in Golden Valley in 1881, driving a team of oxen. He and his wife, Ingri and their family having recently emigrated from Aaserol, Norway. They had eleven children, four boys, Jens, Nels, James and Tom. Their seven daughters were Martha, Ida, Annie, Regina, twins, Violet and Tillie and Ingaborg. Ingri died and was buried in the Garfield Cemetery. Ole remarried and returned to Norway in 1910. The family stayed in the United States. Ingaborg is the only one of the 11 children to remain in the Park River area. She married Ole Neste of Union and the rest of her biography is under her married name.



Ole Jensen Forgard in Norway before leaving for U.S.

MELVIN F. NESTE

Melvin F. Neste was born in Park River on April 30, 1898, the son of Ole and Inga Neste. While attending school, he helped in his father's butcher shop and also at the Great Northern Depot part time. Also, at that time, he began expanding his musical interests as he joined a group of his friends in playing with the 3-T-K dance band. The group played together for many years and was very popular throughout the area. In 1917, Melvin went to work as operator for the Great Northern Railroad in the Park River depot. He married Ida Overbye, daughter of Iver and Julia Overbye, in 1924. They had one son, Lee. In 1945, Melvin and Ida bought out the Leonard Chapman Outlaw Store and re-named it Melvin's Store for Men. They operated the store till selling out to their son, Lee, in 1963. Melvin died in November of 1978 and is buried in the Park River Cemetery. Ida Neste was also in business in Park River for several years. She and Jack Erovick leased and operated the Lyric Theatre in the early 1950's.

LEE NESTE

Lee Neste is the son of Melvin F. and Ida Neste. He was born September 27, 1930 and attended school in Park River and graduated from UND in 1952. He served with the Army in Korea and returned to join his parents in business in 1954. In 1961, he married Eileen Seim of Finley. They have three sons, Scott, a sophomore at Concordia College; Brian a junior in the Park River High School and Brent, a first grader. Lee is currently owner of Melvin's Store for Men and Ladies and is assisted in the operation by his wife, Eileen and sons, Scott and Brian.

ROY A. NESTE

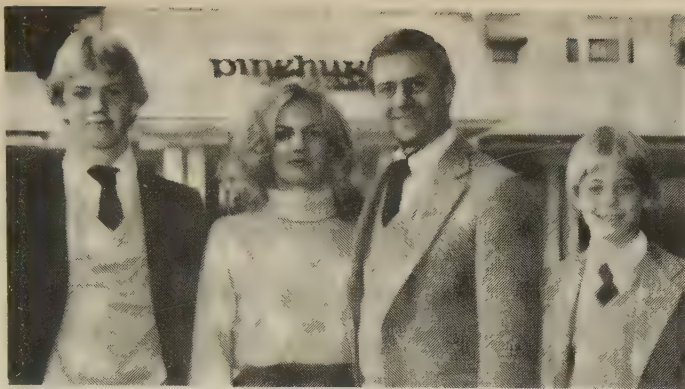


Helen and Roy Neste

Roy A. Neste, the son of Ole Neste, has spent his entire life in Park River, with the exception of college and World War II duty with the Army Air Force.

Roy attended Park River Grade School and Park River High School, transferring to the Walsh County Agricultural School for his senior year.

After graduation from high school, Roy attended the University of North Dakota where he earned his Doctor of Jurisprudence, Bachelor of Science and Commerce and Bachelor of Law Degrees. He served as an instructor in communications at UND and later at Sioux Falls, S.D. In 1944, Roy went on active duty with the Army Air Force, attending Yale University for



The Lynes: Bob, Brenda, Bobby and Greg.

cadet training where he graduated as second lieutenant and valedictorian of his class. He then served as instructor at Yale for a year, and at Chanute Field in Illinois and at Scott Field in Illinois, before going overseas to duty in Phillipines and Guam.

He returned to Park River in 1946 and opened his Law Office where he practiced until his retirement in 1979.

In 1950, Roy married Helen Brandt. They have one daughter, Brenda, who is married to Robert Lyne, and they live in Pinehurst, N.C. They have two sons, Robert Jr., and Gregory. Roy served on almost every community organization in Park River. He was City Attorney for 28 years, Clerk of the Park Board for 27 years. He is past president of the Commercial Club, Jaycees, and has had offices in the American Legion Post No. 147 of Park River.

ANDREW AND AGNES NOVAK



Andrew and Agnes Novak (1930)



Andrew and Agnes Novak (1980)

Andrew and Agnes Novak moved from their farm in Rushford Township to Park River in 1975. They had farmed for 37 years in Rushford Township. They were active members of the local Farmers Union.

Andrew Novak and Agnes Grovum were married January 15, 1930 at St. Mary's Rectory by Father McGee. Their attendants were Louis Novak of Pisek and Emma Grovum of Hoople. They celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary in January, 1980.

Their first child, Norman Andrew died in 1948 at the age of 16 years. They raised three daughters, Arlene (Mrs. Duane Hylden, rural Park River); Janice (Mrs. Klindtworth of Kirkland, Washington) and Ellen (Mrs. George Hurtt of Hoople). All of the girls were WCAS graduates.

The Novaks have 13 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

Agnes Novak died October 28, 1982 at the age of 81 years. She was the daughter of Olav and Bertina (Lee) Grovum of Dundee Township, a pioneer family. Agnes was a 1926 graduate of the Deaconess Hospital School of Nursing at Grand Forks. She was a

member of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church and ALCW.

Andrew Novak was the son of Joseph and Katerina (Ptacnik) Novak, early pioneers of Pisek. He is a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church of Park River and still resides in Park River. Andrew's mother, Katerina, was a sister to Jacob (Ptacnik) Birder, who was an early Park River settler.

ANTONE NOVAK FAMILY



Antone Novak family (L-R) standing: Paul, Marguita, Teresa. Seated: Dorothy and Antone

Antone Novak, the son of Antone A. and Margaret Barta Novak, attended the Walsh County Agricultural School in Park River 1942-43 and then while he was in the Army he finished his high school through the U.S.A.F.I.

Antone married Dorothy Krile, daughter of John and Agnes Cicha Krile, on June 16, 1953. They have three children, Marquita, Teresa and Paul.

Marquita graduated from Park River High School. She worked in the parts department of the Ford Garage until the spring of 1983. She is working for Olson Motors in Cavalier now.

Teresa is attending NDSU in Fargo and taking clothing and textile merchandising. She also graduated from Park River High School.

Paul graduated from Park River High School in 1983, Valedictorian of his class. He plans to attend UND in Grand Forks in the fall.

Dorothy is a substitute librarian at the City Library. She enjoys her home and family and working as a volunteer at the Good Samaritan Center in Park River.

Antone worked for Hardy Garage for 8 years, 1952-1960, and then for Bateman Motors for 18 years. He worked for Erickson Ford until 1983 and now he is working for Heritage Ford and Chrysler in Grafton.

Antone has three sisters, Florence Pecka, Edith Ramsey, Doris Wilhelmi, and four brothers, Cy, Leonard, Vivian and Herman Novak.

MARTIN C. AND FRANCES NYGARD

When Dick Overbye retired and sold his funeral home in Park River to Kamrowski and Nygard of Grafton, the Nygards moved to Park River. All this happened early in 1969.

Martin C. Nygard, partner with Harold G. Kamrowski, was born December 7, 1917 in Grand Rapids, Minn., the son of M.C. Nygard, now of Glendale, Arizona, and the late Mrs. M.C. Nygard. With the exception of four years in Minneapolis and four years in the United States Navy, he resided in Grand Rapids until moving to Grafton in 1954 to become engaged in funeral service work.

In the Navy, Nygard served as a chief aerographer's mate in the Air Force. He graduated from high school in Grand Rapids, attended Itasca Junior College at Coleraine, Minn., in 1937-38 and graduated from the University of Minnesota School of Mortuary Science in 1940.

Marty married the former Frances Collette, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Collette of Grafton. He has two sons, Martin and Billy, and one stepdaughter, Mrs. Charles Bugge of Roseburg, Oregon. Mr. Nygard was active in community organizations and civic work. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge, VFW, DAV, American Legion, Grafton Golf Club, Lions Club, Eagles and the North Dakota Funeral Directors Association. He was active in the activities of the St. James Episcopal Church at Grafton, of which he was a member. He became a licensed embalmer in Minnesota and in North Dakota in 1954. Mr. Nygard died on January 1, 1983. His wife, Fran, is continuing to make her home in Park River.



Rosamond O'Brien

SENATOR HARRY O'BRIEN AND SENATOR ROSAMOND O'BRIEN



Harry O'Brien

Harry and Rosamond O'Brien were children of pioneer parents. Rosamond's parents, Jenny and Halvor Thoe emigrated from Norway and settled near Devils Lake in the early 1880's. Harry's mother, Anna Kennefic O'Brien, came from New York and spent her first two years teaching in Cato Township. Harry's father, Tom O'Brien, was born in Wisconsin and came to North Dakota in 1883. He took up a claim and parlayed it into a 1200 acre farm which is still in the family...being operated by a grandson, Jack O'Brien.

Harry attended high school in Devils Lake and then went to the A.C. in Fargo for 2 years, however, his education was interrupted by W.W.I. and he served in the army and was stationed in France with A.E.F. for two years.

Rosamond attended school in Devils Lake and graduated from high school in 1922. She took a course at Valley City and taught school near Webster for two years.

Harry and Rosamond were married in 1923 and Harry decided to take advantage of the G.I. Bill and attended the Dunwoody Institute in Minneapolis and took up Journalism. After he completed the course he went to work for the Devils Lake World but quit when he was told he would have to join the Union. From there he went to work at the Bottineau Courant. Rosamond was always eager to improve herself and went to the newspaper after hours and learned how to operate the Linotype. She became very good but the manager would not pay her for her work so Harry quit his job.

The Walsh County Press was for sale so Harry and Rosamond made a deal and moved to Park River in 1930. It turned out to be the perfect move for them and Park River also benefited for they were civic minded and determined to put the town on the map. It was during the Depression years and they had difficulty meeting their bills even though they hired only one pressman, Ed Carlen.

Harry was a Democrat and although there were very few Democrats in North Dakota, he was elected to the House and served several terms and then went on to the Senate, where he was the only Democrat, but served 3 terms and in 1952 he decided not to seek re-election. He said Rosamond had put out the newspaper while he was in Bismarck and he thought it was her turn to go. Rosamond was not aware of this until she read it in the morning paper.

She was elected to the Senate and went on to serve two terms. She was chosen National Committee Woman in 1956 and went to Chicago. Her father was a staunch Republican but he was loyal to Harry and Rosamond and no one was happier than he when they won their elections.

Rosamond dedicated a great deal of her time and talents to Community and State Service. She taught a class of Journalism in the High School and also organized three Women's Clubs; The Decca Club, Grand Forks Women's Club and The Manvel Women's Club and had held virtually every office from the District level up to the State President of the General Federation of Women's Clubs.

A writer of considerable ability and talent, Harry wrote a personal column that he called "Read 'Em and Weep" which was widely read in North Dakota and even received national notice as excerpts were published in national magazines including the Saturday Evening Post, Life magazine, Colliers, Readers Digest, and Better Homes and Gardens. Besides publishing The Walsh County Press he was active in a myriad of community affairs. He was Police Magistrate for many years, was Legion Commander, President of the Commercial Club, President of the Fire Dept. and was helpful in establishing St. Ansgar's Hospital.

Harry and Rosamond had no children of their own, but there was hardly a time in their lives that they did not have at least one and some times two youngsters in their home. Among those who enjoyed their love and hospitality were Marie Plesner, Harold Hanson, Shirley Lien, and two nephews Tom Kelly and Russell Thoe.

Harry passed away in 1953 and in 1959 Rosamond married Senator Kenneth Lowe of Grand Forks. She died in Feb. 1974.

Harry's nephew, Henry W. Kelly, bought The Walsh County Press from Rosamond in 1956, so after 54 years it is still in the family.

O.P. OLSON

O.P. Olson was born March 24, 1874 at Fort Dodge, Iowa. When he was eight, his family moved to Hillsboro. His folks homesteaded on land east of Taft, N.D.

Mrs. O.P. Olson (Helena Arnegard) was born August 4, 1878 at Hillsboro and grew up on a farm six miles west of Hillsboro which her folks had homesteaded.

O.P. Olson and Helena Arnegard were married June 15, 1899 at Hillsboro. They farmed 5 miles east of Cummings until 1910 when they moved to Park River and purchased the hardware business from O.E. Hasle. After being in town six months, they purchased their family home on Briggs Avenue from Fred Honey, where they raised a family of two sons and four daughters, Inez, Ernest, Miranda, Lila, Earl and Donah.

Inez and Ernest are both deceased. Miranda married Stanley Stenerson of Edinburg and they have lived there since their marriage. They have two sons and two daughters.

Lila married Frank L. Walker of Park River and they now reside in Hopkins, Minn. They have one son.

Donah married Homer Lucken of Park River and they live in White Bear Lake, Minn. They have two daughters.

Earl married Alice Shortridge of Hannah, N.D. and they have two daughters, Earlene of Washington, D.C. and Joanne of Chicago, Ill.

Active in church and community affairs, Mrs. Olson held various offices in Our Saviour's Lutheran Ladies' Aid.

Mr. Olson was trustee and served as church treasurer of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church from 1919 to 1946. He was elected alderman of the second ward in 1913 and was a member of the first board of directors at St. Ansgar's Hospital.

Mr. Olson died July 24, 1958 and Mrs. Olson died December 23, 1967.

MERLE AND MARION (MEBERG)ONSTAD



Merle Onstad family back row l-r: Robert, Kurt, Tim Hurtt. Front: Sonja, Merle, Marion, Naomi.

Merle Onstad, son of Elmer and Cora Wagner Onstad was born January 10, 1930. He attended rural Dundee Elementary School and is a graduate of the Walsh County Agricultural School. During the Korean Conflict, he served two years in California. He worked for Standard Oil Agent, Art Meagher, from 1955 until 1962 when he purchased the business. He operated Onstad Oil Co. until 1979. Merle formed Onstad Park Service which maintains all city parks and Hillcrest Golf Club. He also owns King Koin Launderette.

Merle married Marion Meberg, daughter of David and Alice Flaten Meberg, in 1954. Marion was educated in the Park River schools and received her B.A. from Concordia College in Moorhead, Minn. She taught Social Studies and Girls Physical Education for three years and Girls Physical Education another six years at WCAS.

Merle has been very active in community clubs and in Our Saviour's Lutheran Church. Marion has been active in working for Our Saviour's Lutheran Church and G.F.W.C. Decca Club.

Merle and Marion have four children, Kurt Martin; Naomi Ruth (Mrs. Tim Hurtt), Robert Leif and Sonja Lea.

IVER P. OVERBYE

Iver P. Overbye was born April 1, 1865 and left his home in Hamar, Norway at age 14 and lived with an uncle in Valparaiso, Ind., while he attended business school. He moved to Park River to be with other relatives. He clerked in several stores and later he and N.J. Marifjeren went into a partnership in a hardware store, known as Marifjeren and Overbye.



Iver P. Overbye Family

Front row (L-R): Elda, Iver P., Lorney, Helen, and Julia. Back row: (L-R): Mildred, Harry, Palmer, M.B. (Dick), Johan, Clifford and Ida.

On December 1, 1891, he married Julia Walden at her father's home in Conway. In 1914 Overbye sold his share of the partnership to Marifjeren and moved with his family to Lemsford, Sask., where he was postmaster and ran a general store.

The Overbys had nine children, Palmer, Johan Clifford. Harry, Lawrence, Mildred, Ida, Dick, Elda and Helen. The Overbys moved back to Park River in 1947. Mrs. Overbye died July 22, 1953 and Mr. Overbye died in June, 1957.

Three of the Overbye family lived in Park River area after the family moved to Saskatchewan: Ida, her biography is under her married name, Ida Neste. M.B. (Dick) Overbye, biography submitted by Ann Overbye and Johan Clifford.

Johan Clifford Overbye was born in Park River, the son of Iver P. and Julia Overbye. He enlisted in the armed forces in World War I and served in the Army. After the war, he returned and married Priscilla Walstrom, also of Park River. He and Roy Scidmore went into partnership in the garage and Chevrolet dealership business. In 1933 the garage was wiped out by a fire. They moved the dealership to Grafton where J.C. was active in the business until selling out to Dick Church in 1958. At that time the family moved to St. Paul. They had two children, Bonnie and Jack. J.C. died in St. Paul in 1973 and is buried there.

M.B.(DICK) AND ANN OVERBYE

Dick's parents were the late Mr. and Mrs. I.P. Overbye. He graduated from the Park River High School in 1923. He starred in football, basketball and track. That fall he went to the North Dakota Agricultural College at Fargo (now NDSU) and spent one year there. He was a member of the Baby Bison football team. For the next few years Dick worked at various jobs before starting employment in 1931 with Dave Johnson who owned and operated the mortuary and furniture store in Park River. Then in 1937 after attending Worsham's College of Mortuary Science at Chicago, Overbye graduated and received his National Conference Certificate. He earned his North Dakota embalmer's license and funeral director's license in 1938. The young mortician married the former Ann Gronvold, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Paul Gronvold of Park River, in 1937. Ann's father was the druggist here in Park River.

M.B. Overbye's association with the funeral home in Park River began back in 1931 when he was employed by the late Dave Johnson at the Johnson mortuary and furniture store. In 1932 Dave Johnson was elected Walsh County sheriff for a 4-year term and while he was handling these duties, Overbye worked for Fred Anderson who operated the funeral home and furniture store in Johnson's absence. Johnson then returned four years later to assume operation of the firm and Dick continued his employment after graduating from the College of Mortuary Science. In 1945 Dick purchased one-half interest in the Johnson Funeral Home and Furniture Store, and four years later bought out the firm completely.

In 1958 the widely respected and civic-minded local funeral director sold out his furniture store and built one of the most modern and handsome appearing funeral homes in the state. This was a fitting move for Dick and Ann who dedicated themselves so completely to the demanding role of the mortician's profession.

Dick contributed much to the growth and progress of the community, both civic-wise and socially. He served six years as city councilman; was a member of the park board for 12 years, was past-president of the Jaycees; was a member of the Park River Golf Club; was an honorary member of the Park River Volunteer Fire Department, after having served as an active member of the department for 10 years; was a member of the Masonic Lodge; was a member of the Park River Commercial Club; and member of the North Dakota and National Funeral Directors Associations.

Besides his enthusiasm for ski-jumping, Overbye was an avid hunter and a sports fan of the first order.

Mr. and Mrs. Overbye more easily identified as Ann and Dick to their legions of friends in this area- retired from a profession that claimed Dick's dedicated attention for over 37 years. They sold their funeral home to Kamrowski and Nygard of Grafton in February of 1969.

Dick died on December 29, 1973. Ann is continuing to make her home in Park River.

THE PENAS FAMILY OF PARK RIVER

Jay Thomas Penas had established his family in the Park River community after World War I and the family today extends into four generations.

Mr. Penas was born April 9, 1900, at Badger, Minn., the son of Joseph F. and Mary A. (Linert) Penas. He went to school at Badger and moved to the Park River area when he was 18.

He married the former Mary Alice Schufletowski in 1919 in Park River.

The Penases spent their married years in the Park River community with the exception of one year in Canada and five years in the Pisek and Adams communities in North Dakota.

After returning from Canada in 1931, they took up a residence at the present farm home one mile south of Park River.

Mrs. Penas' parents were John Frank Schufletowski and Anna (Wellek) Schufletowski, who resided south of Park River only a half mile east of the Penas farm home. The Schufletowskis have had a long history in the Park River community and Mr. and Mrs. John P. Schufletowski spent 65 years of their married life there. Mrs. Schufletowski was born in Spillville, Iowa, and Mr. Schufletowski was born in Chicago, Ill.

The Penas' farm home was known by the name of Pleasant Groves and was owned for several years by Sinclair Lewis, the American novelist from Sauk Center, Minn.

Jay Penas bought the farm from Lewis in 1944.

During his years as a grain farmer and cattle man, Penas took



Mr. and Mrs. Jay Penas (1919)



L-R, back row: Daniel, Glenn, Philip, Lawrence. Middle row: Vera, Clinton, Clara, Jennifer. Front row: Clark, Jay, Mary, Carrie.

an active role in community affairs.

He was promoter of school reorganization in Walsh County and he was one of the organizers of the Park River Livestock Sales Ring.

He served 33 years on the Park River School Board, 20 years on the Kensington Township Board, 12 years on the Farmers Union Elevator Co. Board and four years on the Park River Livestock Market Board.

Mr. and Mrs. Penas observed their 60th Wedding Anniversary in 1979. They have been members of St. Mary's Catholic Church.

Mr. Penas died December 24, 1979. Mrs. Penas continues to make her home at the farm at Park River.

There were eleven children in the Penas family. There are twenty-five grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

There are two deceased members of the family. Mary, the first-born child, died at birth and Lawrence died in 1979 at the age of 52. He is buried at Carrington, N.D.

The other daughters and sons are Mrs. Felix (Clara) Budish and Daniel and Glen, all of Park River; Philip of Fargo; Mrs. Jack (Vera) Johnson of Billings, Mont.; Mrs. Patrick (Jennifer) Morris of Jamestown, N.D.; Clinton of Portland, Ore., Clark, who is a colonel in the U.S. Air Force at Altus Air Force Base in Oklahoma, and Mrs. Harlan (Carrie) Larson of Lompoc, Calif.

JOHN C. AND IRENE PETERSON



John C. Peterson family l-r, back row: Wayne, Kathy, Kathryn, Arlene, Robert, Karen, Gary holding son Jason. Front row: Casey, Irene holding Kristie, John, Matthew.

John C. Peterson born at Bemidji, Minn., son of Bernard J. and Julia Elthon Peterson, moved to Park River with his parents in 1929. He married Irene Knutson in 1942. He served in the U.S. Air Force for three and one-half years during World War II. He took his basic training at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, electrical and radio schools in the Panama Canal Zone and was stationed in Panama, Galapagos Island and Herington, Kansas. He was discharged as a Staff Sergeant in October 1945 and returned to Park River where he resumed his work as a mechanic for T.F. Meagher and Son, John Deere dealers. He died in September, 1979. He was active in the American Legion, IOOF Lodge, Federated Church and fireman. During World War II, Irene worked for Douglas Aircraft in California as a riveter. She is now employed as a secretary for Oppegard Equipment Company in Park River. She has been active in the Federated Church, American Legion Auxiliary, Rebekah Lodge and the Park River Volunteer Ambulance.

Their children are: Wayne, Robert, Karen and Kathryn.

Wayne married Kathy Edwards, daughter of Byron and Gloria Edwards of Grand Forks. He attended UND, served in the U.S. Army in Vietnam. When he was in the Officers Candidate School in Ft. Benning, Georgia, he graduated as top of his class both academically and in physical fitness. He is now a District Engineer for Amoco Oil Company in Casper, Wyoming. They have two sons, Matthew and Casey.

Robert attended Wahpeton State School of Science where he played on the football team. After four years in the Marine Corp he attended NDSU. While in the Marines he was stationed from Viet Nam to Korea. He married Arlene Olson, daughter of Walter and Ruth Olson of Argusville, N.D. They live in Fargo where he is a locksmith at NDSU.

Karen married Gary Micheli and they have two children, Jason and Kristie. They live in Pueblo, Colorado. Karen attended

Wahpeton State School of Science and worked as a secretary before her marriage.

Kathryn graduated from UND in Grand Forks and is now employed as a travel agent for Master Travel in Denver, Colorado.

Clinton W. Knutson, son of Nathan J. and Ida Allen Knutson, married Minnie Jobe, daughter of John and Annie Corrigan Jobe

on December 31, 1918. Clinton lost his left hand when he was 12 years old. He was holding his dog and trying to protect him from an irate man. The man fired his shot gun and the little boy was hit. Clinton started out as school teacher but later followed in his father's profession of plumbing. Minnie died in 1967.

Their children are, Irene, Dennis, Arthur, Harriet, Larry and Don.

Irene married John C. Peterson.

Dennis retired as Lt. Commander after 30 years in the U.S. Navy. He married Ellouise Shelton and they have three sons, Michael, John and George. They now live in Ohio.

Arthur served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He died in 1976.

Harriet married Kjartan Armann and has two sons, Kenneth and Kjartan. They live in California.

Larry served in the U.S. Navy. He married Marion Walstad and they have one son, James. They live in Minot where Larry is Executive Director of Dakota Boys Ranch.

Don served in the U.S. Army and now lives in New Orleans where he is a plumber.

CHARLES PORTER FAMILY



The Charles Porter family, l-r, standing: Deborah Stein, Kenneth, Charles, Glen, Janice Wolf. Seated: Loraine Porter and Barbara Bradley.

Charles, second son of Emmett R. Porter was born in Pierre, S.D. on April 9, 1915. The Porter family moved from South Dakota and settled in Park River in 1918. Charles completed his education in Park River. He married Lorraine Diemert of Langdon on September 25, 1937. They are parents of five children: Janice, born December 31, 1938, is married to Dr. Jerry Wolf and they now reside in Billings, Mont. They are parents of three children. Kenneth, born May 23, 1941, is married to Helen Svir; they reside in rural Park River and have three children. Barbara, born March 6, 1951, is married to Max Bradley; they are parents of four children and reside in Park River. Deborah, born March 26, 1957, is married to Paul Stein; they live in Duluth

and are parents of two children.

Charles purchased the well drilling business from his mother, Mrs. Hannah Porter, in 1948. In 1949 he purchased a rotary drilling machine. He has been drilling wells in North Dakota and Minnesota for 36 years.

EMMETT R. PORTER, SR.



Wedding picture of Hannah Samuelson and Emmett R. Porter. (Nov. 22, 1911)

Emmett R. Porter, Sr., (Jan. 19, 1869-Dec. 24, 1940) was born in Albia, Iowa and spent his childhood in South Dakota.

On November 22, 1911 he married Hannah Samuelson (November 6, 1893). He came to Park River to drill a well for the Park River Milling Company in 1917 and in 1918 he moved his family from DeSmet, S.D. to Park River. They had three sons, all who followed in their father's footsteps and became well drillers. Leonard was born on February 23, 1913 in DeSmet, S.D. and is now living in Hot Springs, S.D. He never married. Charles was born on April 9, 1915 in Pierre, S.D. He is married to Lorraine Diemert of Langdon and lives in Park River.

Emmett R. Jr., was born June 5, 1923 in Park River. He was married to Dorothy McBain. She died in October, 1981. They had no family. He is now married to Mary Ann Long McBain and they reside in Grafton.

The E.R. Porters were members of the Presbyterian Church and he was an active member of the Odd Fellows Lodge. Hannah is now a resident of the Good Samaritan Center in Park River.

DAVID PRASKA FAMILY

Mr. and Mrs. David Praska moved to Park River in May, 1964 from Adams, N.D., where Mr. Praska had been employed by the Farmers Grain Co., as assistant manager before his present employment as a warehouse examiner for the USDA.

The Praskas live at 208 Summit Avenue South. At the time their home was built, there were only two other homes on Summit Ave. They were owned by Kenneth Jacobson and John Wild.

Mrs. Praska (Betty) has been employed by Walsh County as a Homemaker Health Aid for the past six years. She also has been an Avon representative for twelve years and also, at present is a Group Leader in Avon.

The Praskas' are the parents of five children, Douglas, who resides in Grand Forks; Debbie (Mrs. Lynn Nelson) of O'Fallon,



David Praska family, seated in the front row are, to the left Jeremy Praska, Jason Nelson and Shawn Praska. Second row Betty Praska, Debbie Nelson, Mary Praska and daughter Julie Praska and David Praska. Back row Lynn Nelson, Guy Praska, Paul Praska and Douglas Praska.

Missouri; Guy, at home and Mary Ann of Park River. A daughter, Julie, passed away in May, 1972 at the age of twelve, at Grand Forks, as a result of a brain tumor.

One of Dave and Betty's pleasures are their four grandchildren, Shawn and Jeremy Praska of Grafton, Jason Nelson of O'Fallon, Missouri and Julie Praska, II.

David was born and raised at Pisek, a son of the late Frank and Julia (Jarus) Praska and graduated from the Walsh County Agricultural School in Park River in 1948. Betty (Elizabeth) is a daughter of the late Charles and Mary (Beneda) Novak, and attended the Lankin Schools and graduated in 1952.

The Praska's were married at St. Joseph's Catholic Church at Lankin, N.D. on May 14, 1952.

LIFE OF A PIONEER MOTHER



Aaron and Alice (Davis) Ramsey (about 1910).

Fifty-five years ago today, December 29, 1940, was the wedding day of a pioneer mother, Mrs. Aaron Ramsey of Crystal, N.D. The wedding of Alice Letitia Davis of Park River, Dakota

Territory and Aaron Ramsey, Vernon Township, Walsh County took place in a church at Grafton, Dakota Territory officiated at by the Rev. Mr. Peter Grant, a Baptist minister of Park River. The bride's sister, Frances Ann and the groom's brother, George was the other couple to make up a double wedding. The bridesmaid at the wedding was Minnie Kelly, now Mrs. Minnie Graham who is living in Tacoma, Washington and the best man was the bride's brother, the late Charles Davis. Others present at the ceremony were a brother of the bride, Inkerman Davis who now lives in Astoria, Oregon and the late Margaret Landsborough, who later became his wife. The wedding party returned that evening by buggy to the brides' home for an eight o'clock wedding dinner. The neighborhood then gathered for the wedding dance, the music being furnished by a three piece orchestra, two violins and an organ. After dancing all night and having breakfast the married couples took a sleigh to drive across the prairies to the home of Aaron Ramsey, which was about nine miles southwest of Park River in a district known as Ramsey Grove. That evening the groom's sisters prepared a dinner for the groom's relatives and neighbors which was followed by another wedding dance.

Now to go back to the early history of Mrs. Ramsey. Alice Letitia Davis, daughter of William and Mary Davis was born on February 11, 1865 at Onslow, Lower Canada. In the spring of 1867 William Davis left for a new country finally settling at Cresco, Iowa. As his trade was that of a carpenter, here he helped build the depot, and which kind of work he did all the time the Davis' were in Iowa. The family made up of the mother, Alice, three brothers and one sister left Canada by train in the fall of 1867 for their home in Cresco, Iowa. Here Alice Davis received her education in the public schools and the Episcopalian Church and Sunday School.

Because of the depression, drought and a cinch-bug infestation resulting in no work for a carpenter, the Davis family decided to leave Iowa. One son, Charles, had gone the previous fall to work in Minnesota. As the house and lot in Cresco could not be sold for cash, a trade was made when five horses were obtained for the trip. The family leaving the breakfast dishes and the chairs sitting around the table the morning of May 11, 1879, were William and Mary Davis and their children, Inkerman, age 17, Henry, 16, Alice, 14, and Frances Ann, 12 and a neighbor boy William Wentworth. The five horses and the two wagons, the covers made of heavy cotton painted yellow and one which had extensions on both sides for extra storage space, formed the mode of transportation for this family whose destination was Canada to farm.

A large barrel of salt pork provided the meat for the trip. Each time bread was needed it was prepared in the day time and baked after camp was made for the evening, when it was possible to move the cookstove out of the wagon.

One night during a rain storm it was necessary to make camp for evening early; therefore, no shelter could be found for the horses. The offer one man gave for his fenced pasture was taken up. After the storm was over the boys looked for their horses but it was not until the next afternoon about two o'clock they were found not very far away but in the heavy timber along the shores of Lake Geneva and Lake Victoria near Alexandria, Minn.

The family traveled in Minnesota until they came to Moorhead, Minn. Here they crossed the Red River on the Moorhead-Fargo bridge as they had been previously warned about the "treacherous Red" and not to try to ford it as the horses would sink in mud along the banks.

Somewhere between Grand Forks and the Big Salts, known now as Forest River, at a place called Big Coulee, William Davis

made a trade with another traveler-three horses belonging to Davis for seven cows and one team of oxen. For a man who always traded this was considered by the family the best trade Davis ever made.

Information reached the pioneers that if they planned on going to Canada they would be required to pay duty on the horses and cattle to cross the lines. And as it was seemingly impossible to get land near a railroad the pioneers decided to settle in Dakota Territory.

At Turtle River the Davis family met a traveler on horseback known as Ed Carmon. He informed them that there was plenty of free land along the Little Salts, known now as the Park River, where both timber and good water was available.

The pioneers followed a wagon trail, traveling until they realized that the homes were far apart and seemed to be at the end of civilization. They finally reached the Charley Ames farm about five miles east of what is now the city of Park River. Here they were expected as Ed Carmon had told of the family coming in two covered wagons. It was Friday night and raining so the family camped and visited.

The father of Alice Davis was very discouraged because his plans of going to Canada were shattered. He thought of returning to Grand Forks so the boys could go to work. And too, his supplies, especially flour, were running low. Mr. Ames would not hear of him leaving- he said he had two sacks of flour and as long as he did, Davis could have one.

These pioneers never thought of running out of supplies just because there was no place to buy them. At that time Alice Davis was better supplied than the average- never going without flour nor missing a meal. The seven cows obtained in the trade by her father sometimes was the means of providing flour for the Davis family and often times their neighbors.

Sunday, suitable land was found about one mile west of what is the city of Park River, and along the north and south side of the Little Salts. This farm was later known as the Alden Dairy Farm.

Monday morning, June 16, 1879, the Davis family left the Ames for their own land crossing to the north bank of the Little Salts at Wedge's Crossing about one mile north of the Ames farm. This family was at the end of the line, there being no settlers farther west along the river.

The dessert for supper the first day on the claim was fresh wild strawberries and sweet cream.

The nearest neighbors of the pioneers, were two bachelors, Jim Maloney, and Will Code, who had their homes a few miles away.

The closest place to obtain any supplies was a store at Sweden which was about six miles east of what is now Park River and north to the Middle Branch of the Little Salts.

Making a house was the first job on the claim. The family prepared all the logs necessary for an 18x20 house and the neighbors gathered at a bee to raise it taking about one day. No floor was put in the house the first summer. In the fall William Davis went to Grand Forks to buy lumber for the floor. Before the floor was laid, a cellar was dug.

Butter was sent to Grand Forks on this trip in all the available containers which consisted of two two-gallon jars and a butter tub of prints. It was sold at forty-five cents a pound printed. Butter was traded to Jim Maloney for potatoes for the winter. Turnips, which yielded well, were planted late in summer on the breaking. Two hens and a rooster were bought from Alec Bruce and kept in the cellar all winter.

In the first part of November the fall of 1879, Joseph, a cousin of William Davis, and his friend Robert Johnston came from Cresco, Iowa. Joseph secured land west of the William Davis farm and Johnston got the claim and the partially constructed

cabin of William Wentworth, who had returned to Cresco.

December 11, the Davis men and Johnston went to Grand Forks to bring the two families to the claim. It took until New Years Eve to get back to the Davis farm as the weather was so cold and stormy.

It had been necessary to remain at Turtle River seven days because of the severe weather.

The first Christmas was very lonely with William Davis away but New Year's Day paid up for it. Besides the Davis family there were seven children and four adults living in one cabin. the Joseph Davis family moved to their own home in two weeks but Johnston stayed until their cabin was ready in the spring.

The spring of 1880 found new settlers coming in, among them a Dr. Johnston and Dr. Livingston. Dr. Livingston met Mrs. Davis one morning and asked if he and his friend might stay there while their cabins were being built. Mrs. Davis said they had no beds and furthermore very little room. Livingston remarked that he had a bed springs and with that a straw tick would do. On being told that no threshing had been done so no straw was available he agreed to sleep on a hay tick. During the day these springs and ticks had to be piled to make floor space. Dr. Livingston and Dr. Johnston remained at the Davis home for about a month. Later Dr. Livingston was found out to be the father of John D. Rockefeller.

The first winter an Indian man and his fourteen-year-old son stayed overnight at the Davis home. They were traveling by horse and cart, on which they had a deer, which had been killed farther west along the river.

In 1882 the railroad came up to Grafton. Later a post office was established at Kensington, two miles east and about a mile north of what is now Park River. Later Garfield, a village about eight miles west of Kensington started up with the thought some day the railroad would pass through. In 1884 the railroad came to what is now Park River. The buildings from Garfield were moved in and seemingly overnight a town was built.

About one mile south of the southeast corner of the Davis farm, the first school was built on the farm of D.D. Green. This school was used for church and community entertainment.

William Davis was one of the first two to build a bridge across the Little Salts anywhere near the present city of Park River. The bridge, built of logs, washed out two days after the water came down in the spring. At this same time the township was constructing a bridge at Kensington but this one washed two hours after the spring water came down.

Wheat from the first crop was taken to Walhalla to be ground into flour and to Grand Forks which was a four day trip loaded.

After Alice Davis moved out to Ramsey Grove as the pioneer bride of Aaron Ramsey, life was somewhat different. Her home was on the prairie. The closest town was Park River, a distance of about ten miles. Her home was the largest in the community and formed a gathering place for friends and relatives. This log house still stands and is the home of her son Charles. Now it is modernized to the extent of running water and electric lights.

For the first few years the Presbyterians had no church thus the minister had to preach in the homes. In 1889 a new school was constructed so the Presbyterians bought the old building and made it into a church. This church was on the Borgeson farm but this small plot of land was owned by the church members. In 1905 the railroad came to Lankin which was five and one-half miles southwest of the Ramsey farm. The church was then reorganized and a building constructed there.

One of the entertainments held many times in Mrs. Ramsey's home was the celebration of Mr. Ramsey's mother's birthday, January 14. School was dismissed a few times for the afternoon

as there were so few pupils left after the friends and relatives of "Grandma" Ramsey were gone.

It was in the Ramsey Grove district the Ramsey's eleven children, six boys and five girls, were born. Eight children received all their education in the country school there.

Because not enough land was available for the six boys, Mr. Ramsey had to search for more land. This search was ended the spring of 1914 when Mr. Ramsey bought four quarters of land in the Stokesville District in Crystal Township, Pembina County. On April 8, 1914 the family constituted of Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Ramsey, six boys and three girls, moved to their new home at Crystal. (two girls had married).

All the buildings on the farm, consisting of twin barns, large machine shed, large granary and a nine-room house were constructed by the Ramseys between 1914 and 1922.

Mrs. Ramsey's husband died at his Crystal home on June 13, 1929 and was buried beside his son Walter in the Crystal Cemetery.

Although Mrs. Ramsey's life has not been unlike that of many of the pioneer mothers, she has had six trips to make her life more pleasant. The winter of 1919 Mrs. Ramsey, her husband and the two youngest children spent visiting her parents at Portland, Oregon. A trip to Portland, Oregon in 1917 ended by going around by Edmonton, Alberta, to visit a daughter. Again in 1918, Mr. Ramsey visited in Portland. Two trips to Canada to visit a daughter, one in 1927 and one in 1935. The winter of 1937-38 Mrs. Ramsey spent at Long Beach, California.

Today, this seventy-five year old pioneer mother still owns and resides at her farm home. Two sons and a daughter and her family make their home with her.

Mrs. Ramsey still is an active member in the Crystal Presbyterian Church and Ladies Aid.

The eleven children of Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Ramsey are: Mary Emma married to David J. Little lives in Lankin, N.D. and the mother of five children, David of Bismarck, married to Marion McMahn of Fargo, and is the father of the only great grandchild, David James. Harold and Glen of Los Angeles, California, and Delwin and Alice at home; Sarah Ann married to the late John Maize lives at the home of Mrs. Ramsey, is the mother of three children, Georgia and Boyd at home and Weldon of Olympia, Washington; Hattie Louise married to the late Earl L. Cass lives at Rocky Rapids, Alberta, Canada and is the mother to three sons, Leroy, Hilliard and Vernon at home; Charles Aaron, married to Gertrude Olson of Thief River Falls, Minn., lives at Park River, N.D. and the father of two sons and three daughters. Walter, Kenneth, Diana, Phyllis and Carol, all at home; Edward William, married to Hellen Reilly of Crystal lives at Crystal and the father of Laurence, Donna and Joanne, all at home; Hazel Elizabeth married to William H. Lewis lives at Park River, N.D. and is the mother of seven children, Vernon, Allen, Jean, Jay, Charles and Robert at home and Dorothy of Grand Forks; Clifton Davis at home at Crystal; Richard Earl at the home at Crystal; Walter Earnest died January 14, 1925; Hilliard Vernon married to Christy Matheson of Milton, N.D., lives at Crystal; and Letty Muriel married to Fred E. Weston lives at Grand Forks and is the mother of Ralph, Lloyd and Patricia, all at home.

Copied from a story filed with the
pioneer daughter stories in 1941

JOHN AND JAMIMA RAMSEY



John and Jamima Ramsey

John and Jamima Ramsey were born, raised and married in Somersetshire, England. They lived and worked on a large estate. When they came to Canada in 1856, they brought a family of four girls: Mary, Harriet, Lizzie and Lena, and one son, John. The trip was made by boat and took six weeks. They settled near Mount Forest, Ontario, Canada, and farmed there. They completed their family with three sons, George, William, Aaron and the youngest child, a daughter, Sarah.

In the year 1880, their sons Aaron and John, came to Walsh county, North Dakota, and were the first settlers in Vernon Township. In 1881 they sent for their parents to come and join them. They had built them a new log cabin. At this time John was 65 years old, and Jamima, 61. Picking up their belongings and leaving Canada, they came by train to Fisher's Landing, Minnesota. There they crossed the Red River by ferry and their sons met them and brought them to their homestead in Vernon Township, where their cabin nestled in the woods, not far from a lovely river, a branch of the Forest River. They proved up their farm by 1884 and their sons farmed it for them.

In the next few years all the rest of John and Jamima's children came to the United States. Some farmed and settled for some years around Lankin, N.D., later leaving to prove up land and live in Montana.

John passed away in the year 1887 at the age of 70 years old. Jamima lived until she was 87 year old passing away in the year 1908. Funeral for Jamima was held in Ramsey Grove Church and was attended by friends and relatives from far and near. The church was insufficient to accommodate them all.

Jamima's grave in Christenson Cemetery, Ramsey Grove, was unmarked from the year of her death in 1908 until 1972. Now a marker has been placed on a beloved Grandmother's grave who could never be forgotten.

The twenty-one years Jamima lived beyond her husband were busy years for her. She shared her home with her daughter, Elizabeth McArthur Maloney and her children, Mary and Johnny Maloney, after her husband, Jim Maloney, passed away. She did lovely handwork, such as piece work quilts, and appliqued pillow shams. She won first prize at the Walsh County Fair.

Jamima was devoted to her Church of England before coming to the United States. While here she attended the Presbyterian Church, of which she was a devoted member until her death. She had many spells of gall bladder attacks, often having the relatives called for fear of her passing, however, she recovered many times.

Her birthday was a great and eventful celebration, for she shared the date of January 14th with a son and daughter. Very



The children of John and Jamima Ramsey. Back row (L-R): George Woods, John Ramsey, Mrs. Aaron Ramsey (Alice Davis), Aaron Ramsey, Charley Chalcroft, George Ramsey and Issaac Smith.

Center: Grandmother Jamima Ramsey.

Front row (L-R): Mrs. John Ramsey (Annie Woods), Mrs. George Woods (Sarah Ramsey), Mrs. McArthur Maloney (Lizzie Ramsey), insert picture - Mrs. William Grayson (Mary Ramsey), Mrs. Issaac Smith (Lena Ramsey), Mrs. Charley Chalcroft (Harriet Ramsey), Mrs. George Ramsey (Annie Davis). One son William died as a youth.

faithfully every year all relatives would come to her little log cabin to help her celebrate her birthday. Regardless of her small cabin, she always loved to have her children and grandchildren around her. At one birthday, forty-eight grandchildren came to wish her well.

In her later years she was asked to write a verse for her granddaughter, Lydia Ramsey's autograph book. This is what she wrote:

Jamima Ramsey is my name
And England is my nation
Dakota is my dwelling place
And Christ is my Salvation

When I am dead and in my grave
And all my bones are rotten
This little book will mark my name
When I am quite forgotten.

Jamima was a remarkable woman in many ways. In every gathering she was always the center of interest for many years, because of her activity and concern for everything that was for the good of the community. Her life was long remembered by the people of the valley to whom she had administered in hours of sickness numerous times and various ways.

John and Jamima Ramsey were pioneers in the true sense of the word, hard-working and loyal to their God and newly-adopted country. They were ever grateful for what the Lord bestowed upon them.

William J. McArthur came to Park River as a child, in the fall of 1881, with his grandparents, John and Jamima Ramsey. C. Amelia Henderson came to Park River some time in the 1880's as a child with her mother and stepfather, Betsey and Calmaus Walter. William McArthur and Amelia Henderson were married

Dec. 19, 1894 in Park River. They farmed a quarter section of land near Lankin, N.D., until William's death on February 10, 1907. They had one son, Merritt McArthur, born Sept. 27, 1903, at Park River. Amelia and Merritt McArthur moved to Montana in the spring of 1907. Merritt now lives in Seattle, Wash., and still owns the farm in North Dakota.

Elizabeth Ramsey McArthur, a widow (William McArthur's mother) came to Park River in 1882. She married Jim Maloney and they had two children, Mary and John. After Jim Maloney passed away they lived with Jamima Ramsey. Mary married Dorville Walter and in the spring of 1907 moved to Montana. Elizabeth and John went with them.

Calmaus and Betsey Walter came to Park River in the 1880's, homesteaded and farmed near Lankin, N.D. They had three sons, Joe, Grant and Bert. Joe married Gevena Kelly and Grant married Mary Chervenka, they moved to Montana in 1907. (Mary Walter now lives in Gresham, Ore.). Calmaus, Betsey and Bert Walter moved to Montana about 1914.

Roe (Monroe) and Mike (Gastin) Walter, brothers of Calmaus Walter, came to Park River in the 1880's. They took up homesteads and farmed. Roe had eight children. Dorville moved to Montana and one of the girls married and moved to a town in central North Dakota, the rest of the family moved to Oregon. Mike had two daughters, they moved to Maryland. Both families left Park River in the early 1900's.

JOHN RAMSEY-PIONEER



John and Lydia Ramsey

An opportunity that all boys dream of and only a few are afforded was accepted by John Ramsey and his brother Aaron--to set out for a new land full of challenging adventures.

John and Aaron left their parents at Mount Forest, Ontario, Canada, in 1879 with the promise that when they were settled in their new home they would send for their parents. They went first to Michigan and worked but in the spring of 1830 when the lumber business was over they set out for Dakota Territory. They arrived at Fishers Landing, Minnesota and walked up to Burbidges east of where Park River is now located.

They discovered all the land along the river was taken but Burbidge told them about a woods with a nice stream southwest of town. They went down the river to John Ross' homestead and he carried them across the river-- he had wading boots. Being Ross was quite a giant of a man, he once carried both of the young men across at one time.

One of the boys had a shotgun and the other a rifle and with these slung over their backs and in the company of Burbidge and

Ross the boys walked over and took a look at the woods. The Ramseys liked it at first sight and decided to squat.

Of course, we don't know what the conversation would be that first night around the fire as John and Aaron sat and ate their first supper on the site of their future home, but we can well imagine it was plans for the months ahead and particularly the forthcoming day. There was considerable scouting to do to find the best land to till for the first year's crop. Crop from the first year in this new land--how that must have thrilled their hearts.

This first night they stayed on their new claim they built a shelter by taking the big elm trees and cutting strips of bark four feet square and putting up poles like a wigwam. It rained that night and they built a fire at the door but they did get their clothes wet and drying them proved a problem.

One of the first things the Ramseys did was dig a well. They had a spade but no rope to pull the dirt up with so they took long strips of green basswood bark and tied knots in it every foot or so. They had no buckets so they used the water pail. A new pie plate that they had been using for a looking glass was the utensil employed to dig up water and dirt from the bottom of the well.

They washed their clothes in a stream that flowed near their cabin. To have their bread baked they walked 3 miles across country to Burbidges and also carried potatoes from there.

Many were the hardships during the first year but they also made many friends. Their log cabin was a stopping place for travelers coming from Grafton going west as it was in the valley between Grafton and western part of Walsh County. The doors were never locked and when they were away people traveling past would stop over night and leave again and never take anything. The Ramsey brothers had a 20 dollar gold piece they kept in the crack between the logs all that first summer.

Because the Ramseys were the first settlers in Vernon Township; and the first to build a log house in the township the community later called Ramsey Grove. School District No. 53 still goes by Ramsey Grove School. The valley was known as Golden Valley and the way it received that name is interesting. Aaron and John Ramsey, Cal and Roe Walter and John Ross were on their way to Kennsington Post Office one day and when they reached the highest point they turned and looked back over the valley-- everything looked golden bright in the bright sunlight and so they decided it was truly "Golden Valley".

The boys batched there together until their parents came from Ontario. They built a log house for elder Ramseys in 1882. Their parents proved up their farm. The land was broke with oxen and they experienced the many difficulties of early days. The boys walked to Grand Forks to file on land and at other times before they had other means of travel. The land was proved up in 1884.

There were no Indians permanently inhabiting the area that is now Vernon Township but there were some Indians who would spend the winter in Minnesota around the lakes and go back west for the summer and they would camp in Ramsey's woods on the way through.

Sometime after their arrival, Garfield was their trading place and post office and it was here that John met Lydia Woods, a young lady who had come from Mount Forest, Canada, also. They knew many of the same people but had not met each other there. Lydia had come to the Dakota Territory just for a visit, first with her brother in Minto and then she made her home with another brother, Thomas Woods, for a year at his home northwest of Lankin. Later she filed on a claim near that place.

Lydia and John were married in the Methodist parsonage in Grafton, Dakota Territory, on December 5, 1883 with Rev. H.P. Cooper officiating. George Woods and Sarah Ramsey were the witnesses. To this union four children were born, William, Lydia,

Mary and John.

John Ramsey was an elder of the Presbyterian Church and served on the school board for many years. He lived on the old farm until December 30, 1917, when he passed away with inflammatory rheumatism and pneumonia.

Lydia lived to see almost all her grandchildren and passed away on Nov. 5, 1932. She had been ill with bronchial trouble for three weeks and it was thought she was on the road to recovery until November 5th when she quietly passed away. Rev. M.D. McIntosh gave the funeral service and she was laid to rest beside her husband in Christianson Cemetery.

There were some of the men who came in later-- left their families in dire need and went and worked in Grand Forks and other places. It was seldom they got home and their family had to depend on the neighbor's for help. Such were not the true pioneer--such were not John and Aaron Ramsey. They came and with their strong bare hands wrestled a living for themselves and their families out of the earth. Today not 300 yards from where the first bark shelter was erected the first night they spent there, is a large two-story 8-room house and large barn. Aaron later moved to another homestead where he erected substantial buildings. These will be monuments to their strength and fortitude as long as they stand. Long after they crumble and fall there will still be pride in the hearts and minds of their descendants, at the memories of these great men.

Had they known that their experiences those first years of pioneering would have been interesting and meant much to their children and grandchildren later on they might have kept a diary or some sort of notes on the happenings of their early years in Dakota, or even talked more of it; but these were modest men and the trials and hardships that they had gone through was merely what they would expect of any man.

Some of the younger grandchildren were not privileged to know their grandfather, John Ramsey, personally, but his faith in the future and in his God and his great fortitude has come down through the family. There may not be prairies and wilds of North Dakota to conquer any longer but there are many other frontiers open to us all today to work on. God grant that we could half measure up to that great man of yesterday.

LYDIA RAMSEY-PIONEER MOTHER

Little did Lydia Woods realize when she came to visit her two brothers that she would make Dakota her home for 50 years.

She was the only girl of a family of twelve. Lydia's parents came from Ireland and it was while they lived at Tecumeth, Ontario, that Lydia was born in 1851. Later the family settled near Mount Forest, Ontario.

She attended the Methodist Church in Mount Forest which was a three-mile walk-- the common transportation of that day. On many of these walks she was accompanied by young men of the community. Had Lydia journeyed to the other side of the township she would have undoubtedly met John Ramsey. But this was a romance that was destined to bud under the blue skies of Dakota.

After being urged by letters from her two brothers, Robert and Thomas, to come and visit them in Dakota, she decided to go. Being the only daughter it was hard to leave but in July, 1882, she said goodbye expecting to return home in a few months.

She visited Robert at Minto first- then went to stay with her brother, Thomas and family, who operated the Galt Store and Post office in Walsh County. It was here that she met John Ramsey, a young settler who had also come from Mount Forest, Ontario, in the spring of 1880. John had filed a claim in Vernon Township. He had built a log cabin in a forty-acre natural woods

what was later known as Ramsey Grove, as he and his brother, Aaron, were the first settlers in that township.

Although they had never met in Mount Forest they found they knew many of the same people. Lydia had filed on a claim, planted trees and had 40 acres broke.

Lydia and John were married on December 5, 1883 in the Methodist Parsonage in Grafton, N.D., with Rev. H.P. Cooper officiating. Their home was a stopping place for settlers coming from Grafton and other places and going further west. They never knew what time of day or night people would come or how many but provisions were always made for them.

It was very different from the settled country of Ontario and Lydia spent some long lonely hours when her husband had to be away on business.

One time, after they had started raising sheep, John had to make a long trip and was detained after dark. Lydia realized she would have to hang a lantern by the sheep pen to keep the wolves away. She fixed up an old lantern to carry on the way back to the cabin. It wasn't too bad until she had reached the pen and hung up the good lantern and started back with the old-not-too-dependable lantern. She hurried in the direction of the cabin dragging a chain to make noise as the woods echoed with the howling of the wolves. They seemed to be all around her. Once more inside the cabin she felt the satisfaction that she could tell John on his return that the sheep were safe. This was another instance of the bravery of pioneer women.

Although they encountered no trouble with Indians traveling through they would hear of the uprisings further west and knew the fears of the uncertain future.

Through long years of hard work and perseverance the fertile lands of the Red River Valley rewarded them with abundant crops.

Lydia Ramsey was a charter member of the first church, Presbyterian, organized in their community.

Besides church activities, quilting bees and house raisings were the extent of their social life. The first of their children were twin boys, who died shortly after birth. Later four more children were born to Lydia and John Ramsey, William, Lydia, Mary and John.

They lived on this same farm until John's death in 1919. They made many changes. Near where the two room log cabin once stood is a two-story, 8-room modern home and other fine farm buildings.

Lydia was a devoted Christian, proving it by day to day living. A patient loving mother devoted to her family and a good neighbor to all who knew her. On the day of her death she sat up and by Absent Voters Ballot, voted for prohibition. She was laid to rest beside her husband in the Vernon Cemetery, Walsh County.

The eldest son, William, married Laura Falter and their children are as follows: Mrs. Joseph Hajicek (Crystal); Clinton, Leland, Elmer, Warren, Mrs. Frank Gordon (Lucille) and Mrs. Lisle Boss (Winnie) all of Washington state; Mrs. Ralph Bone (Wilma) and Vernon of Oregon.

Mary, the youngest daughter married William Liddle and their six children are as follows: Lawrence, Mrs. F.D. Brandt (Ethel), Grace, Mrs. Alan Martin (Doris), all of North Dakota and Lloyd of California. One son, George, passed away in 1942.

John married Amy Simmons and their children are: Desmond, Lester, Mrs. Wayne Meyer (Virginia), Gordon, Ernest, Donald and Shirley, all residents of North Dakota. Ronald, who was a twin of Donald, passed away at the age of one year.

The oldest daughter, Lydia, remained single.

Lydia Ann Ramsey lived to see twenty of her grandchildren and peacefully passed away on her homestead November 5, 1933 at the age of 81. A true pioneer mother.

JOHN HENRY RAMSEY FAMILY



John Henry Ramsey and Amy A. Simmons - 1921

John Henry Ramsey was born April 22, 1893, the youngest child of John and Lydia (Woods) Ramsey. He had brother William and two sisters, Mary and Lydia Jane. The eldest children were twin boys who died in infancy.

He attended the Ramsey Grove School, so named because of its location in a grove of trees by the original Ramsey claims. He graduated in 1916 from a two-year winter course at the Walsh County Agricultural and Training School in Park River.

John was handy at treating cattle and horses, and he also did some carpentry work.

He was a member of the Norton Telephone cooperative of Lankin and Clerk of Ramsey Grove School District No. 53. He was a member of the Ramsey Grove Presbyterian Church in Vernon Township, and later in the Federated Church of Park River.

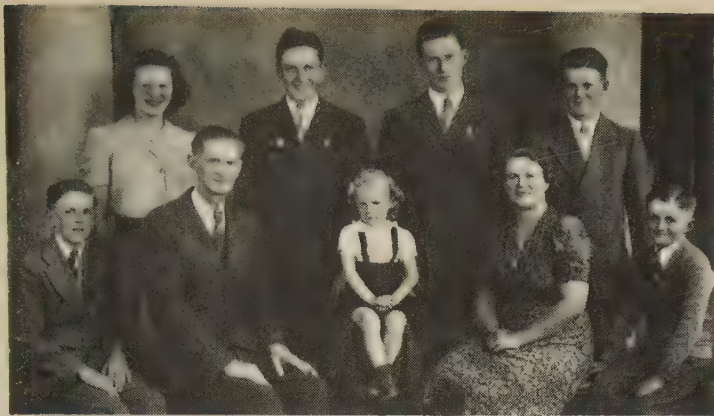
He farmed the original John Ramsey claim until ill health required that his young sons take over. He lived in Park River and Grand Forks prior to his death on March 10, 1960.

Amy A. Simmons was born September 9, 1898 in East Harptree, (near Bristol), Somerset, England. She was the second daughter of Pharoah and Annie (Weston) Simmons. She had a brother, Ernest John and two sisters, Elsie and Alice. Two brothers died, Reuben Arthur in infancy and Lester Pharoah at age two and one-half years. Her grandparents were Daniel and Elizabeth Simmons (occupation, a mason) and John and Martha Weston (occupation, a farmer).

Ernie had lived in the states about 10 years. He convinced his family to come to the United States. They sold their belongings and set sail on the English Ship "Scotia" arriving in Quebec, Canada, in February of 1920, and proceeded to Grand Forks, N.D. Authorities would not allow their ship to dock in New York Harbor because of the flu epidemic at the time.

Amy worked at Black's Cafe and then as a dental helper until she married John H. Ramsey. Their attendants were Charles Ramsey and Miss Alice Simmons. They settled on the Ramsey family farm in Vernon Township, six miles west and five miles south of Park River.

John and Amy were the parents of six sons and two daughters: Desmond Alton, Lester LeRoy, Virginia Irene (Mrs. Wayne Meyer), Gordon Russell, Ernest John, twins- Ronald Ray (died in infancy) and Donald Jay and Shirley Ann Lorraine (Mrs. William Parker).



John Henry and Amy A. Ramsey Family: Left to right: Ernest, Virginia, John Ramsey, Desmond, Shirley, Lester, Amy Ramsey, Gordon and Donald (1943).

Amy was a member of the Federated Church of Park River, served as Clerk of the Ramsey Grove School District No. 53 and was affiliated with the Rebekah Lodge of Park River. Both John and Amy were named honorary members of the William Broyles Chapter of WCAS.

Amy was a cheerful, optimistic person who worked very hard rearing her family, washing clothes on a scrub board for a dozen years using soap she had made. She raised geese, turkeys and chickens and used the softest feathers in making pillows. She even made a couple of mattresses for the family. It was very difficult getting the needle through the heavy ticking and the many layers of cotton matting. She raised a large vegetable garden and canned 400-500 quarts of fruit and vegetables and meats each year. The men did the butchering and she rendered the lard and processed the meat.

A sandwich was no quickie from the Deli or fast food. She baked six loaves of bread at a time, three times a week, when she was packing school lunches. She milked cows, separated the milk from the cream and made butter from the cream. She invented many delicious fillings and combinations for sandwiches to make the lunches interesting. One idea that became a family favorite was to slice beet pickles on the buttered bread, it wasn't soggy and tasted delicious. It was her heart's desire that all her children should graduate from high school and this they did at WCAS.

She enjoyed entering fairs with her canning and baking and consistently won numerous blue ribbons, including several sweepstakes and silver trays, at the Walsh County Fair and State Potato Show, in Park River. Scrapbooks contain ribbons for poultry shows at Lankin as far back as 1928 and up until 1961 at the Grand Forks State Fair also.

On her 50th birthday her children surprised her with a bicycle. She had not been on one since leaving England, but she had not forgotten how to ride.

After leaving the home farm in 1952 she lived in Park River and worked at Brandt's Cafe and then moved to Grand Forks in 1954. Amy died on her 63rd birthday, September 9, 1961, and is buried in the Christianson Cemetery in Vernon Township beside her husband, John and son, Ronald.

The grandchildren of John and Amy are as follows:

Desmond married Edith Novak and they live in Park River and have five daughters and two sons, Virginia Lynn, Gary Desmond, Catherine Ann, Sandra Rae, Donald Lee, Sally Renae and John Alton.

Lester married Corrine Eriksen and they live six miles west and five miles south of Park River. Their home is built on the site of the original Ramsey sod shanty. They have one son and three daughters, Leroy Chris, Marlys Kay, Laurie Ann and Patricia

Marie.

Virginia married Wayne Meyer and lives in Edinburg, N.D. They had two daughters and one son, Michelle Delyn died in infancy, Cheryl Marie and Stuart Wayne.

Gordon married Joyce Finstad Fritzler, and lives on the family farm, rural Park River where his ancestor, John Ramsey homesteaded in Dakota Territory. They have two daughters, and four sons, Caren Lee, Russell John, Scot Alan, Tami Ann, Timothy Gordon and Allan Todd.

Ernest married Caroline Stauss and lives in Grand Forks. They have one daughter and one son: Amy Elizabeth and Jeffrey John.

Donald lives in Grand Forks and is employed at Lystad's Chemicals, Inc.

Shirley married William Parker in Juneau, Alaska. They have lived in Naples, Florida and their present home is in San Angelo, Texas. Her stepchildren are Denise Lorraine, Brian Greg, Neal Blake and Kevin William Parker.

There are now fourteen great grandchildren.

GEORGE RUSTAN



George and Alice Rustan (1973).

George Rustan, son of Fingar Rustan and Caroline (Olson) Rustan was born in Cavalier County at rural Union, N.D. on May 21, 1915. He was baptized and confirmed in the Zion Lutheran Church of Union of which he was a member. After receiving his elementary education in the Montrose Township school, he helped his father on the farm before establishing a trucking line hauling cattle to the stockyards in Fargo.

On June 29, 1941, George was married to Alice Nygard, daughter of Andrew and Anna (Thorson) Nygard of rural Edinburg. Alice received her elementary education in the Tiber School and in 1933 graduated from the Walsh County Agricultural and Training School (WCAS) in Park River. She attended Mayville State Teacher's College and taught rural schools for ten years in both Walsh and Cavalier Counties.

George was inducted in the U.S. Army on November 4, 1942. He received his basic training before his assignment to overseas duty. George served in the Quartermaster Corp in Guadalcanal and was in combat duty on the island of Luzon in the Philippines where he attained the rank of Technical Sergeant. He was the recipient of the Good Conduct Medal, the Victory Medal, the



First row (L-R): Tom, Greig, Georgia and Kerry DeSautel. Back row: Alice, Char and Guttorm Brekke.

Phillipine Liberation Service Medal with one bronze star, the American Theater Service Medal, and the Asiatic Service Medal. He was honorably discharged from the Army on December 23, 1945.

After George's discharge from the Army, Alice and George made their first home in Union, ND. for eleven years while George farmed near Milton and then operated a garage in Union before beginning construction of movable homes. In August 1958, they moved to their new home which they built in 1957, to Park River. The construction of homes continued and the business grew.

George was in failing health for a number of years. He died on June 1, 1974. Alice continues to reside in Park River. She is a member of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church and is employed part-time by the Good Samaritan Center.

George and Alice were the parents of two daughters: Georgia DarLynn and Charlotte ReNae. Georgia, born May 15, 1942, attended Wahpeton School of Science and North Dakota State University. She married Tom DeSautel of Hoople, N.D. They reside in Rockford, Illinois where Georgia is a school secretary and Tom is a teacher. They have two children: Kerry, born June 12, 1963 and Greig, born October 8, 1964. Both are students at the University of Iowa at Iowa City, IA.

Charlotte, born February 12, 1950, is a graduate of the University of North Dakota, and has done post-graduate studies at the University of Oslo, Norway. She is married to Guttorm Brekke of Flaam, Norway. They live in Grand Forks, N.D. where Char is employed as a travel agent and Guttorm teaches in the Grand Forks Public School System.

GERALD AND JOANNE SANDY

Gerald (Jerry) Sandy moved to Park River in 1960, after graduating from Westhope High School. He worked for the State Highway Department in Grand Forks, and helped his father and mother, George and Ruth Sandy, who operated the American Legion Steakhouse (Sandy's Steakhouse) in Park River.

Marrying Joanne Schildberger in 1963, they settled down in Park River, after living one year in Grand Forks. Jerry started working for First Bank Insurance of Park River in 1969 and has been employed with them since. He recently was promoted to Regional Vice President by First System Agencies, so he and his family will be making their home in Fargo.

Jerry's wife, Joanne, is a part-time employee at St. Ansgar's Hospital in Park River. They have five children, a daughter,



Jerry Sandy family: Joanne, (in front), Tim, David, Perry, Wade, Paige, Jerry (in back).

Paige, who is twenty and a pharmacy student at NDSU; Perry, 19, and a sophomore at UND., Wade, 17, and a high school senior, David, 14, and an 8th grader, and Tim, 12, who is in 7th grade.

ALPHONSE(SHORTY) SCHILDBERGER



Eugene and Alphonse Schildberger.

Alphonse (Shorty) Schildberger, born in 1907, moved to Park River in 1939 from a farm by Pisek, after he married Anne Machovsky Horejsh in 1938. For many years, he worked as a farm laborer until he started his own business of painting and carpentry.

He and Anne resided at Park River thereafter and raised four children, Eugene, who lives at home with his father, a son, Albert, who died at the age of 11 in 1954, and twin daughters, Joanne and Janice who were born in 1944.

Alphonse's wife, Anne, passed away in 1974 at the age of 64.

Janice married Ronald Hoffman of Grafton and lives in Groton, S.D., where her husband is manager of the telephone company. Both had been employed by Polar Telephone and lived in Park River for a short time.

They now have four daughters, Janet, 13, Elizabeth, 6; Rebecca, 5 and Jessica, 3.

Alphonse's other daughter, Joanne, lives in Park River and married Jerry Sandy. They now have five children, four boys and one girl; Paige, Perry, Wade, David and Tim.

CHRIST SCHLENK



Christian (Christ) Schlenk



Christ and Annie Schlenk

Christian Schlenk was born Sept. 5, 1869 in Sauk City, Wisc., to George and Dorothea (Schnellar) Schlenk. His father, George Schlenk originally came from Germany and his mother, Dorothea Schlenk came to the United States in 1854 from Switzerland. She was born in June of 1848. George came to the United States in 1854 at the age of 18 and settled in Wisconsin. George fought in the Civil War. He married Dorothea on May 28, 1866.

Christian (Christ) Schlenk came to Park River from Wisconsin when he was 17 years old and later returned to Bloomer, Wisc. He came back to Park River at the turn of the century and met and married Annie Kafka. Annie Kafka was born Aug. 30, 1880 in Austria, Hungary and came to the United States with her parents and one younger brother, John, when she was six years old. Her parents were Andrew and Anastacea (Scornichka) Kafka. The Kafkas settled in Veseleyville where Annie lived until she was 20 years old at which time she went to Park River to work. Annie and Christ were married January 21, 1905. Christ was the only descendant of George and Dorothea Schlenk to settle in North

Dakota. They remained in Park River where Christ served the city in several capacities. He became Fire Chief in 1901 and was the oldest acting Fire Chief in North Dakota when he died on January 7, 1941, at the age of 72. Christ was elected Chief of Police in 1904 and served in that capacity for many years also. Annie Schlenk died March 11, 1941, two months after the death of her husband, Christian. Christ and Annie had five children; Harold, George C., Wilbert (Bill), Agnes and Ivan (Chief).

Harold was the oldest child of Christ and Annie. He lived in the Park River area all his life except for two years served in the United States Navy Seabees during World War II. He married the former Amala (Molly) Dub, daughter of John and Anna (Blazek) Dub in Pisek on February 16, 1931. Molly was born June 8, 1910, and resided in the Pisek-Park River area her entire life. Harold was born December 2, 1905. He followed in his father's (Christ) footsteps in his service to the Park River Volunteer Fire Department. Harold joined the Fire Department in 1932 and became Fire Chief upon his discharge from the Seabees in 1946. He was Fire Chief until his retirement from that post in March, 1968. Harold and Amala (Molly) have six children, Harold, Jr.; Monica, Audrey, James, Daniel and Debra.

Harold, Jr. married Donna Brown of Park River; they live in Carson, CA., and have three children, Patricia, Susan and David and three grandchildren.

Monica married Kenneth (Bing) H. Knutson of Park River; they live in San Antonio, Tx., and had three children, Kenneth H., Jr. (deceased), Kevin and Keith.

Audrey married Manuel V. Reyes of San Antonio, TX., where they are presently living. They have three children, Jacquelyn, Mark and Janette.



Harold Schlenk



Molly Schlenk, Harold Jr. and Monica.



Harold, George and Bill Schlenk

James married Lois Knutson of Grafton, N.D., where they are presently living. They also have three children, Jacqueline, Shane and Valorie.

Daniel married Mary Ann Greicar of Pisek and later of Park River; they have two children, Brook and Brandy. These are the only Schlenk descendants now residing in Park River.

Debra married Auley E. Black of Augusta, GA., where they are presently living. They have four children, Russell, Janel, Andrew and Douglas.

Harold, Sr., passed away on August 18, 1968, and Amala (Molly) died May 18, 1973. Both were residents of Park River at the time of their deaths.

George C. Schlenk was the second child of Christ and Annie. He was born June 17, 1908. He married the former Ida Seboe of Park River and they have three children, Robert, Lois and Elsie.

Robert married Skip Bushaw of Thorne, N.D.; they live in Aurora, CO., and had three children, Glen (deceased), Shannon and Eric.

Lois married William Schlenner of Whitehall, PA., where they are presently living. They have two children, Mary and Ann.

Elsie married Rodney Biedsoe of Ft. Meyers, Fla; they live in Florida and have one child- Susan.



Agnes Schlenk



Ivan Schlenk



James Schlenk and Kenneth Knutson

George and Ida lived in the Park River area where he managed the grain elevator until 1948. They moved to Perth, ND until George's retirement and later moved to Enderlin and then to Fargo where they were living when George passed away on November 5, 1982.

Wilbert (Bill) Schlenk was the third child of Christ and Annie. He was born May 20, 1910, and married Nell Lawrence of Park River. They had two children, Larry Bill and Janice (deceased). Bill lived in Muskegan, Michigan at the time of his death in 1975.

Agnes (Aggie) was the only daughter of Christ and Annie Schlenk. She was born April 20, 1912, and lived in Park River until 1942 when she moved to Minneapolis, Minn. There she met and in 1946, married Harvey McDowell from Red Lodge, Mt. Harvey served with the U.S. Navy during World War II. Agnes and Harvey live in Detroit Lakes where they have lived for several years.

Ivan (Chief) is the youngest of the Christ Schlenk family. He was born October 19, 1916. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II. Ivan married Marie Odee of McVile, N.D. where they are presently living. They have three children, John, Marcia and Roger.

John married Cynthia Nesland of Thief River Falls, Minn., they live in Minneapolis, Minn. and have two children, Alicia and David.

Marcia married Graeme Wilson of Australia. They live in Hatton, N.D.

Roger married Angela Schrader of Michigan, N.D. and they live in Grand Forks, N.D.

ANDREW SEBOE

Andrew Seboe, son of Gudbrand Seboe and Kari Knutsdatter, was born in North -Aordal, Norway in 1872, he came to this country in 1885 at the age of 13. His wife, Anna Maria (Mary) Bendickson was born in Auburndale, Wisc., on August 16, 1892. They were married on September 8, 1910 at Auburndale. They



Andrew and Anna Seboe

moved to Park River community in 1918. There were fourteen children born of this union; Anita Christine (1912-1982); Ida Sofia (1912) married George Schlenk; Gustav Bernhard (1914-1980) married to Marv Von Slycken; Margaret Amanda (1915-1965) married to Joseph Erovick; Annie Olive (1917) married to Jesse Tchabold, and later to Martin Severson; Arthur Julius (1919-1979) married to Clara Gallop; Clarence Oscar (1921) married to Erena Gillespie; Gilmen Edroy (1923) married to Irene Froiland; Roy Albert (1924) married to Mary Lohse; Myrtle Agnes (1927) married to Willmar Wanke; Lillian May (1930) married to James Gjerswold; Helen Bernice (1933) married to Edward Kytola; Bernice Genevive (1934) married to Darrell Pengilly, and Vernon Chester (1937) married to Karen Stark.

Mr. Seboe passed away on August 8, 1950 at the age of 78. Mrs. Seboe died on March 1, 1966 at the age of 73. They are buried in the Memorial Park Cemetery at Park River.

ELMO SETNES FAMILY



Elmo and Marie Setnes

Elmo Setnes was born April 13, 1917 to John and Carrie Setnes, Adams, N.D. He grew up and attended school there. Elmo enlisted in the U.S. Marines in 1942 and 1946, receiving his training at San Diego, California. He spent 28 months overseas and was a gunner on the U.S.S. Enterprise Aircraft carrier. When he returned home he started working as a carpenter with Theo. Dahl Construction. Elmo is a Contractor for building and remodeling and has built many homes in and around Park River.

Elmo married Marie L. Frovarp November 4, 1946, at Edinburg, N.D. They have three children, Wanda, Gary and Audrey. Wanda attended school at Park River and Aaker's

Business College at Grand Forks. Wanda worked at the University of North Dakota and at the Grafton Bank. She is presently working at the Good Samaritan Center in Park River. She is married to Warren Ludtke of Sebeka, Minnesota and they have two children, Darren Lee, born October 4, 1978 and Darcie Faye, born May 20, 1981. Darcie was born on the same date as her Grandma Marie.

Gary Elmo attended schools in Park River and the University of North Dakota at Grand Forks. Gary was drafted into the service and received his training at Ft. Polk, La. He was stationed in Viet Nam for about one year. Gary received the Bronze Star while there. When he returned home he worked as a carpenter for his dad, worked a few years at Fargo, N.D. and is now working as Superintendent for Rudd Construction at Carbondale, Colorado.

Audrey Jean attended school at Park River, Mayville, and at a fashion designing school at Minneapolis, Minn. She worked at Norby's in Grand Forks and is presently working at the First Bank of Park River. She married Dayton Larson and they have two children, Ryan Turner, born May 10, 1979 and Garrett Lloyd, born September 21, 1980. Dayton and Audrey own and operate the Larson's Cafe.

Elmo and Marie are members of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in Park River. Marie taught Sunday School and Bible School for many years. She also worked at the Good Samaritan Center. Elmo enjoys bowling, golfing and archery.

RONALD SETNESS FAMILY



Ron Setness family: Jeremy, Tracy, Ron and Debbie

Ronald Setness was born at Devils Lake in 1944. He attended a rural school in Vesta Township for his early years. Later he attended schools in Park River and Fargo. In 1967 he received a Bachelor of Science from North Dakota State University and taught school for one year in Fargo. In 1968 he attended the Lutheran Brethren Seminary at Fergus Falls, Minnesota and received a Bachelor of Divinity. After this he served in Christ Lutheran Church of Libby, Montana. While here he met his wife, Debbie Olson, who was one of the parishioners. They were married in 1972.

Debbie's roots also reach back to the Red River Valley as her grandfather, Earl Olson, operated a large blacksmith shop in Beltrami, Minnesota. Earl died in the flu epidemic of the 1920's so her grandmother moved with the small children to a small town near Minot, ND where she operated a hotel.

As a young man Ed Olson, Debbie's father-to-be, joined the Air Force and served in England during WWII. It was while there he met his wife, Joy. After the war ended they came back to the states and heard that the J. Niles Lumber Company of Libby, Montana, formerly of Minnesota, was hiring. So, they moved to that area and Ed served as a lumber grader for that company, now St. Regis, until his retirement in 1982.

In 1972 Ron and Debbie decided to move back to North Dakota and try their hand at farming. It was a new experience for Debbie as she had never even seen a combine or many of the tools used in farming. These first years were tough years as Ron was struggling to buy the necessary tools needed for farming and trying to build up a livestock herd. It was not easy for Debbie either. She was adjusting to rural life and tough North Dakota winters and snow storms.

Ron had grown up on a farm and actively helped his father with the farm work from the time he was eight years old. Ron particularly remembers one occasion when he was eight years old and was swathing. His father, Willard, was behind with the combine and grandma Alice came along to the field with her son Alfred. Grandma Alice became very alarmed that such a young fellow drove a tractor hooked to a swather, so Uncle Alfred took over the job for that day.

Ron and Debbie have two children, a boy named Jeremy, born in 1973 and a girl named Tracy, born in 1975.

From 1973 until 1981 they lived on Ron's grandparents' (Pete and Alice) farm near Edinburg. Part of this farm is the original homestead of great-grandfather Edwart. Edwart also operated a blacksmith shop on his homestead.

In 1981 Ron and Debbie bought a house of their own on the west edge of Park River following a devastating hail storm which left many of the buildings on the farm in need of much repair. Ron at the present time farms his grandfather's farm and raises beef cattle, while Debbie works with Henry Kelly's Walsh County Press.

Submitted by
Ron Setness

THE SILLIMAN FAMILY



Silliman Family

Taken during the holiday - December 1965.

Back row (L-R): Fred Silliman, Donna, Elva Silliman. Front row: Betty, James and Carol.

Fred A. Silliman was the son of Arthur and Grace Silliman, born May 5th, 1913 at Peru, Iowa. The Silliman family was part of the Pennsylvania line of Sillimans who came to America from Antrim County, North Ireland, in 1727. They gradually moved westward. Arthur Silliman was born in Madison County, Iowa, on December 6, 1884. He married Grace Thomlinson, also of Iowa. It was in 1916 that the Arthur Silliman family along with four other families decided to emigrate from Iowa to North Dakota, settling near the town of York. They came via train which also brought household goods, their animals and machines to be used on their new farms. Over the years, some families returned to Iowa or went on, but the Silliman family persevered.

Fred was the youngest of five children at that time. Four other children were born at York, although two were raised by relatives in Iowa upon the death of his mother, Grace. In fact, it was at a Silliman reunion in the Yellowstone Park in 1949 that all the children with their father came together 'under one roof' for the first and only time.

Fred graduated from the York High School. The depression and some poor crops due to drought and rust made it necessary to work hard on the farm besides getting any available extra jobs to fill in. Fred was fortunate to get a job measuring fields under the farm program for several summers. Another job was that of driving an oil truck for the Farmers Union Oil Co. to serve the needs of the farmers in the area.

Elva Hendrickson Silliman was the fifth child in a family of six born to John and Josephine Hendrickson who farmed near Glenfield, ND. Both of her parents were born in Sweden. John Hendrickson was sixteen years old when he and his two brothers came to America from Overhogdal, Jamtland, Sweden in 1877. Josephine Johnson was seven years old when she, two brothers, and a sister came with her parents, Gustav and Mathilda Johnson and an uncle from Wargarda, Westgutland, Sweden, to homestead near Glenfield in 1886. Four more children were born to this pioneer family. John Hendrickson died in May of 1919.

Being raised by a widowed mother who strongly believed in the value of an education, Elva was able to attend Valley City State College after finishing high school in Glenfield. It was while teaching at York, N.D., that she met and married Fred Silliman on June 12, 1942. By this time, Fred was devoting full time to the diversified farming operation with his father.

Fred and Elva Silliman and infant daughter, Carol, made Park River their home in December of 1945. A decision had been made to leave the farming operation at York, N.D. and take over an International Harvester Implement business in Park River. Fred's father, Arthur Silliman, simultaneously decided to sell his farm, come to Park River as a partner in the business, and remain part of the household. He died in January of 1953.

Housing was almost impossible to find in Park River. After living in the Windsor Hotel briefly, an upstairs apartment in the rear of the bakery became available. About a year later, it was revealed that a bid, hurriedly placed by Fred on the old Levin house, had been accepted. It was with some trepidation, yet eager anticipation, that the family went to see the house for the first time. It has been the family home ever since.

Three children were born in Park River-- two more daughters, Donna and Betty, and a son, James. Membership was established in Our Saviour's Lutheran Church.

Fred was active in many organizations. He was keenly interested in cooperating with his fellow citizens on any project which would improve Park River and the community. Besides serving as a member, some offices which he held were, President of the Commercial Club, president of the Community Development Corporation- a post he held for eight years, a

member of the City Council, an honorary member of the Volunteer Fire Department-having served ten years of active duty, a Director on the St. Ansgar's Hospital Advisory Board, director of the Sales Barn Corporation, and a member of the Flake Plant Executive Board. He was a member of the Elks, Odd Fellows Lodge of Park River, the curling club, and other organizations including the North Dakota Implement Dealers and the North Dakota Automobile Dealers Association.

A personal venture was to establish a trailer court in the southeast part of Park River which helped alleviate the housing situation.

Fred Silliman's love of the soil and farming was part of his life. It was understandable that he would eventually incorporate farming into his business holdings. He bought a farm from Palmer Levin in Golden Township in 1965. This farming venture gave Fred some of his more pleasant moments towards the end of his 23 year business career. The little free time he had would often find him out checking the fields and his crops.

Fred passed away on October 8, 1968, at his Park River home.

Elva Silliman is a member of the ALCW. Membership in other organizations have included: the Harmony Homemakers Club, the Rebekah Lodge, the Cemetery Auxiliary, and P.T.A. She taught Sunday School; was a bookkeeper at the Silliman Implement Co. for four years; and more recently, for the past several years, has been assisting with the clerical work at the Dundee Mutual Insurance Company.

Meanwhile, the four children grew up through the bobby-sox, can-can, rock 'n roll and Woodstock era. They all graduated from the Walsh County Agricultural High School. They participated in numerous school and church activities, some of which were chorus, band, Luther League, and the church choirs.

Rainbow Girls was active. All three girls were Worthy Advisors in this organization. Jim participated in American Legion baseball and was an All-Conference Football player.



Norman, Carol, Patrick and Renae

Carol Silliman attended Mayville State College. She graduated with a major in Elementary Education and a minor in Music. She was selected to Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges. Carol taught school in Mayville, N.D. and Burnsville, Minn. She was married to Norman Young of Lancaster, PA., on March 6, 1968. Their first home was at Finley, N.D. where Norman was stationed at the Finley Air Force Radar Station. Carol also taught at Hope, N.D. at this time. From there the family was transferred to McConnell AFB at Wichita, Kansas. It was there that their son, Patrick, was born. They got their little girl, Renae, while serving a two-year tour of duty at the Clark Air Force Base in the Philippines. They are presently stationed at Andrews Air Force Base, Washington, D.C. where



Front row - seated - (l-r): Donna Gillen, Thomas and Michael Gillen. Back - standing - (l-r): Robert and Douglas.

Donna Silliman graduated from the University of North Dakota, majoring in Business Education. While there, she married Michael Gillen of Bismarck, N.D. on November 25, 1967. During her final year of college, she did her student teaching at the Walsh County Agricultural School at Park River.

Donna and Michel have made their home in Grand Forks since finishing college. Donna is a homemaker. Mike is General Manager of Valley Bag and Supply Co. of East Grand Forks, Minn.

The Gillens have three boys, Douglas, Robert and Thomas.



Front - sitting: John W. (Billy) Shuman, Mary Ellen and Betty Shuman. Back - standing: John and Sally.

Betty Silliman attended Lake Region Jr. College of Devils Lake. She married John W. (Billy) Shuman of Devils Lake on February 28, 1972. They lived near Lake George, Minn., where Billy attended Bemidji State College for two years. They presently live in the Birchdale-Indus area of northern Minnesota. Betty works with the County Nurse program and Billy works seasonally with the Forestry Department and with the ASC Department.

The Shumans have three children, John, Sally and Mary Ellen.

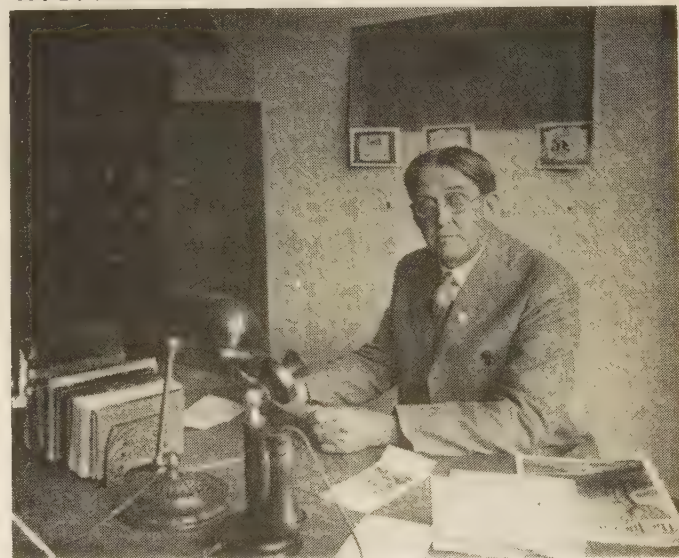
James Silliman graduated from Golden Valley Lutheran College of Minneapolis in 1974, with honors. He was also elected to Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges. Then he attended Concordia College of Moorhead, Minn. He majored in English and history. In May of 1976, he graduated Summa cum laude. He taught English in the Junior and Senior High School of the Sebeka, Minnesota Public school system.



James Silliman - 1983

After three years in the education field, Jim made a career change. Fulfilling a desire to fly, he joined the U.S. Marine Corp. He was commissioned a Second Lieutenant on December 21, 1979. He completed flight training on Oct. 2, 1981, as a First Lieutenant. He currently is a squadron pilot for Marine Helicopter Squadron HMH- 463 located in Kaneohe Marine Corps Air Station, Kaneohe, Hawaii.

W. B. SIMCOX



W.B. Simcox, Principal Park River High School

W.B. Simcox was born in Liverpool, England Aug. 28, 1881. He died in Chehalis, Washington in 1951.

He lived in Park River over 20 years, serving as Principal of the Park River High School. He retired from education when the Park River High School was closed in 1933.

WM. SKJERVEN SR. FAMILY

William Skjerven, Sr., was born in Fertile Township, Walsh County, on January 31, 1901, the son of Haakon and Ella (Jenson) Skjerven. He grew up on the family farm. An outstanding event in Bill's childhood occurred in 1914, when he was 13. The pioneers of North Dakota had given a bust of Abraham Lincoln to Norway and it was placed in Vigeland Park in Oslo, Norway. It was being dedicated on Norwegian Independence Day, May 17, and Bill happened to be on a trip to Norway with his parents at the time. At the dedication ceremony, they asked for an American youth to carry the American flag and Bill was given the honor of doing so.



In front (L-R): Gunna, Leatrice McGuigan, Richard (Dick), Donna Lou Chapman. Back: William Sr., W.C. (Bill).

In Bill's youth, he worked as a mechanic for Clarke Farup, in 1917. In 1927, he started his own garage and machine shop, including selling of Dodge and Plymouth cars and trucks.

Bill married Gudrun Thorsteinson of Mountain, N.D. in 1922 and four children were born to this union.

During World War II, Bill and Ed Colwell operated a War Plant in Park River, producing bomb caps, machine gun cleaning rods and other items for the Armed Forces. Bill, Sr., was active in community affairs, served on the City Council and a volunteer fireman for many years. He is a member of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church.

In 1968, Bill took another trip to Norway with a Sons of Norway group. While in Oslo, they toured Vigeland Park and at the instigation of Thelma and Sylvia Wick, they located the monument of Abraham Lincoln and Bill had his picture taken in front of it. In 1983, Bill's grandson, David and his family also toured the Park and the following excerpt is from a letter David wrote to his mother: "Besides all of the beautiful statues of Vigeland, we found the statue that Grandpa Skjerven helped dedicate in 1914 to be really the most impressive. It's a bust of Abraham Lincoln set up on a marble monument with two brass plaques. The monument is in a very cool, quiet part of the Vigeland Park, with plenty of beautiful shade trees all around it. It was here in the shadow of the "monument from the people of North Dakota to the people of Norway" that we had a really impressive, yet totally native, and very relaxing picnic lunch. I think Tore was kind of surprised and yet very pleased that we'd enjoy doing something so insignificant." Bill's great grandchildren are also pictured in front of the monument in 1983.

Gudrun (Gunna) Thorsteinson was born in Iceland and came to the United States when she was six years old. She graduated from the Park River City High School. She was active in the Lutheran Church, American Legion Auxiliary, Harmony Homemakers, Rebekahs, and other community clubs. She was also Police Magistrate for many years. She died June 15, 1964.

Bill and Gunna's four children are as follows:

W.C (Bill) is married to Margrete Meberg of Park River. They have five children, David, Dawn, Theresa, Ann and Wendy. Bill and Margrete live in Park River.

Donna Lou, who is a teacher, married Blair Chapman, a former Park Riverite, and they now live in Lake Havasu City, Arizona.

Leatrice, who is a teacher, is married to James McGuigan and they live in South Bend, Indiana.

Richard, who is a lawyer, married to Carol Ann Braund, a former Adams girl, and they now live in Los Gatos, California.

On January 11, 1969, Bill Sr. married Stella Knudson Staven and they are now retired and living in Park River.



Carrie and Karmen Skjerven. Great granddaughters of William Skjerven who carried the American flag at the dedication of this statue, May 17, 1914.

W. C. SKJERVEN JR.



Seated in front (L-R): Ann M., David, Margrete, W.C. (Bill), Wendy C. In back: Teresa Chase, Dawne Renner.

William C. Skjerven, son of William and Gunna Thorsteinson Skjerven was born May 29, 1923. He attended school in Park River and one year of College at NDSU in Fargo, before entering the Army during World War II. He was in the Army four years attaining the rank of Captain and returned to Park River to go into business with his father. He started the Airport and Flying Service in 1947 and was one of the pioneers in aerial dusting and spraying.

W.C. (Bill) married Margrete Meberg, daughter of David and Alice Flaten Meberg on January 4, 1947 and went on their honeymoon in a two-place Taylorcraft airplane.

W.C. has served on the City Council, Park Board, Airport Authority, Hospital Board, County Planning Commission and many service organizations. He is a partner of S.K.M. which put cable TV in Cavalier and Park River. His hobbies now are jewelry-making and working with silver.

Margrete was educated in Park River and went to two years to Concordia College, Moorhead, Minn. During World War II she joined The Purple Heart Corp. of the WACS. She is active in the Lutheran Church and a member of Decca Club. They have five children:

David, a Delta Airline pilot out of Chicago's O'Hare Airport, married Caryn Hartvickson, and have two daughters, Karmen and Carrie and live in Crystal Lake, Ill.

Dawne, a nurse, homemaker and businesswoman married Jerry L. Renner, a photographer from Mandan, N.D. and they have two children, Jaime and Jeff.

Teresa, a Medical Technician, works in the Pathology Department of UND, Grand Forks and married Tom Chase.

Ann Margrete, an Architect in Dallas, Texas.

Wendy C. is a senior at NDSU in Fargo, N.D.

JOSEPH SMAZIK



Mary and Joseph Smazik



Agnes, Josephine, Mary and Leona



Joseph, Lloyd, George, Jerry and Joe

Joseph Anton Smazik was born April 5, 1883 in Bystrica, Czechoslovakia. He was the son of the late Frank Smazik and Kathryn Houcheck. He died January 28, 1966 in Olympia, Wash.

After his father's death in Czechoslovakia he came to the United States as a child with his mother. They settled in Pisek, N.D. where his mother married a Vavrosky. She had three more children by her second marriage; Tony Vavrosky, Mary Erovick and Frances Brombora.

Joseph Smazik married Mary Malek in Veseleyville, N.D. She was the daughter of the late Kathryn Voyeke and John Malek. They made their home for many years in Pisek, Lankin and in 1919 they moved to Park River where they lived until 1943. Then they moved to Olympia, Wash., where they resided until their deaths.

There were eight children, Joseph, Mary and George who are still living, and Jerry, Agnes, Josephine, Lloyd and Leona, now deceased.

Joseph Anton Smazik worked as a stone mason and brick layer in the Park River community and surrounding area with the help of his son, Jerry.

They built the only stone gas station in Park River which Jerry operated for many years. They also built the gateway to the agriculture school as it was then called and also worked on the old gymnasium when E. J. Taintor was superintendent.

While living in Olympia, he was employed as a civilian at Ft. Lewis, Wash. After he retired, he lived in Olympia until his death.

GERALD F. "BUD" SOBOLIK FAMILY

Gerald Francis Sobolik, son of John Charles Sobolik and Clara Caroline Karnik, was born December 14, 1925 at Ops Township, Walsh County, N.D. Gerald "Bud" Sobolik attended grade school at Veseleyville and Fee School District No. 33 and high schools at Park River and Minto, N.D.

He served in the United States Navy with the hospital corps during World War II from February, 1944 to January, 1946.

He studied drafting and estimating at State School of Science at Wahpeton, N.D. from 1947-48.

He was employed by Froelich-Schultz Lumber at Carrington, N.D. from 1948-1962.

He married the former Shirley Louise Remillard June 14, 1949, at Fessenden, N.D. Her parents were George Remillard, Sr. and Barbara Reiner. Shirley was born at New Effington, South Dakota on August 2, 1926, and when she was two months old, the family moved to Fessenden. She received a B.S. degree in elementary education from Valley City State Teachers College in June 1948. She taught third grade for one year at Carrington.

Bud and Shirley adopted James Gerald, who was born August 21, 1956. Two years later they adopted Jean Mary, who was born May 13, 1959. In May, 1960, they adopted Fred Michael, who was born July, 1957.

In May, 1962, the family moved to Park River where Bud purchased the Fursteneau Lumber Company from Otto Fursteneau together with a cousin, Clement Houdek of Veseleyville, N.D. Bud purchased Clem's share of the business in July, 1977. They renamed the business Park River Lumber, Inc.

On November 26, 1963, a daughter, Carol Ann, was born to Gerald and Shirley at Park River.

At present (1983) none of the children are married. Jim is employed as a trucker; Fred is carpenter in the Park River area; Jean is a pharmacist in Arlington, Texas and Carol is a sophomore at the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks.

SANDER AND TILLIE SOLL



Wedding picture of Tillie and Sander Soll (1886)



Minnie, Arthur, Terrence and Eddy Soll. Children of Sander and Tillie Soll (1895)

Sander Soll was born in Lansing, Iowa in 1857 and came to North Dakota in the early 1880's where he located and became the first postmaster of Garfield, N.D. He married Tillie Schroeder of Mountain, N.D.

When Garfield was moved to the present location of Park River, Mr. Soll moved with it and engaged in a cattle and meat marketing business. In 1917, he settled permanently in Compton, Calif., where he resided until his death on July 11, 1932.

His wife, Tillie, was born in Germany on October 28, 1866 and died in California March 9, 1953 at the age of 86.

Sander and Tillie had four children, Minnie, Arthur, Eddy and Terrence, and an adopted son, Harry.

Sander Soll was elected one of the first constables in Garfield in 1884.

Minnie Soll married Joseph Masloski and resided in Park River all her life.

MARVIN M. SORENSON

Marvin Sorenson was born in the Grafton-Auburn area on January 21, 1922, at the family farm home and lived there most of his early childhood. He was the third child and second son born to Casper C. and Amanda (Hellen) Sorenson. Their other children were Anna, Houge Keltner, Roy C., Robert M., and Glenn A. Sorenson. Casper was a carpenter in the Grafton area until his retirement.

Educated in the Grafton School system, Marvin graduated from high school in 1941, and that year Company "C" left for

training in Alexander, La. The 164th Infantry was to see action in the battle of Guadacanal among other major battles. In April, 1944, he was discharged from the Army and returned to the Grafton area.

St. Mary's Church in Park River was the setting for his marriage to Geraldine F. Landsborough, on October 21, 1944. Geraldine was the youngest daughter of Elmer and Mabel Landsborough. Father J.J. O'Meara officiated at the ceremony and attendants were Fern Landsborough and John Anderson.

Under the G.I. Bill, Marvin attended school at the State School of Science at Wahpeton, for two years. He graduated in the field of radio and refrigeration. While attending school there he played football and basketball. After finishing at Wahpeton they moved to California where Marvin continued his education at Long Beach College. He worked as a journeyman electrician in the Long Beach area until 1950 when they returned to Park River.

In Park River they bought the Park River Electric and did electrical contracting for 17 years. Marvin was employed by the North Dakota State Electrical Board as an inspector for the northeastern section of the State.

Marvin was active in community affairs. He was Commander of the Paul Farup Post No. 147; president of the Park Board; a member of the Commercial Club; a volunteer fireman and a past president of the International Association of Electrical Inspectors. He enjoyed bowling, curling, golf and playing cards. Marvin passed away on May 1, 1983.

Geraldine has also been active in community organizations such as Decca Club and Golf Club, and enjoys china painting. The family are members of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Park River.

Marvin and Geraldine have one son; Keith. Keith attended the Park River schools and the University of North Dakota at Grand Forks for two semesters. He graduated from Northwest School of Portland, Ore., in 1978. Keith married Pamela Marie Staehnke on October 29, 1983 and they reside in Bismarck where he is employed as the Branch Manager of North Dakota Auto Club.

AMBROSE AND ILAH SPOONLAND



Back row (L-R): Beth, Ross, Joan. Front row: Ilah, Paul and Ambrose.

Ambrose Spoonland, son of Oscar and Thea (Dahl) Spoonland, was born October 2, 1923. He attended a one-room rural school in Rushford Township (south of Park River) and graduated from the Walsh County Ag School in 1942.

He married Ilah Akre Spoonland, the daughter of Isaac and Lilly (Nelson) Akre. She was born July 19, 1928 and attended a

one-room rural school in Lampton Township (northwest of Park River). She graduated from the Walsh County Ag School in 1946 and attended Jamestown College in Jamestown, N.D., and later taught four years in the elementary school in Hunter, N.D.

Following high school graduation, Ambrose began farming in the Park River area. Of the farmland he owns, one quarter (southwest of Park River) was homesteaded by his paternal grandparents, John and Mary Spoonland in the mid- 1800's. They had emigrated to the United States from Norway in 1880.

Ambrose and Ilah maintain their home in Park River where their four children attended the elementary school and graduated from the local high school. They are members of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, where their children were baptized and confirmed. Ilah taught Sunday School and is active in the ALCW. She also served on the Park River School Board.

Their children are:

Ross, born July 13, 1953. He graduated from Wahpeton State School of Science and is engaged in farming and trucking. He married Tracy Midgarden of Park River and their three children are Barret, Sunny and Preston.

Joan was born August 29, 1954. She graduated from the College of Nursing at UND in Grand Forks and married Roderic Schanilec of the Forest River area. Their three children are Angie, Ginger and Laura.

Beth was born July 23, 1959. A graduate of UND, she is employed by Cargill, Inc. of Minneapolis, Minn., in the internal audit department.

Paul was born February 9, 1963. At present he is employed in this area.

ELMER AND STELLA STAVEN FAMILY



Elmer and Stella Staven (1925).

Elmer Staven was born on a farm in Prairie Center Township, Walsh County, on August 11, 1898 to Paul and Anna Marie (Markuson) Staven, child number four in the family of nine children. He was a farmer always except for two years when he was a fieldman and insurance salesman for the North Dakota Farmers Union and a good one in both occupations.

His education ended in the 4th grade when he had to begin doing almost a man's share of work on his father's farm. He was, however, an avid reader of good reading and educated himself about politics, new farming methods and farm organizations, finding the Farmers Union the one he thought the best.

He was a member of South Trinity Church, where he was baptized and confirmed. He joined Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in Park River in 1928, with his wife, Stella and their then two children, Deloris and Shirley.

He was one of the main instigators of the organization and buying of the elevator that became the Farmers Union Co-op elevator in 1937. He was the president of the first board during the organization and from then on, was on the elevator board until his death in 1965. In 1946, he helped organize the Farmers Union Oil Company (Cenex) and with his neighbors went out and sold stock. It opened in the spring of 1947 and is today a large and thriving Co-op in Park River. He was elected to be a member of the Walsh County Farmers Union Education Organization and served as a board member for many years. In 1956 and 1957, he was hired by the Farmers Union Grain Terminal Association to take farm surveys of farmers in different areas of the state to prove that farmers weren't getting a fair share of the economy as to prices for their products. (This work was done during the winter months; when he couldn't be in the field). He was a former county member of the board of the old Agricultural Adjustment Act, organized during President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's time. Then on the county board of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service. He received a Certificate of Merit for outstanding accomplishment in Soil Conservation making of his farm a good producing farm. This Certificate was from the U.S. Department of Agriculture of the USA.

He was a quiet, kind man, and always a champion for the causes to better the lot of people.

The farm Elmer and Stella purchased in 1942 was in the NE¼ of Section 19 and the West ½ of Section 18, in Kensington Township, Walsh County.

Stella Knudson Staven Skjerven was born on a farm near Walcott, Richland County, N.D., in 1906 to Anna and Elling Knudson. She grew up in Fancher Township in Ramsey County with a background of strong Lutheran religion. She attended grade school in a country school, attended high school in Edmore and College in Valley City. She taught in a rural school in Overland Township for one year. She married Elmer Staven on October 19, 1925. He died in 1965. She continued to operate the farm located north of Park River which they had bought in 1942, for two more years, after which she had a farm sale but continued to live on the farm until 1976 when she bought a house in Park River and moved off her farm that fall.

Four daughters were born to Elmer and Stella: Delores (Mrs. Richard Casement), Shirley (Mrs. Jack T. Edwards); and twins, LaVerne (Mrs. George Williams) and Lois (Mrs. Norm Wyble), who were born in 1932 at the height of the depression and dry years of the 1930's.

Money was scarce, but not food--there was much canning of meat and vegetables. Because of the shortage of grain and hay, the Government purchased cattle. We realized \$20.00 a head and the calves were all killed. 200 bushels of wheat were planted in 1932 and 201 bushels were harvested. Five acres of potatoes yielded 500 bushels resulting from the timely fall rains. Wheat sold for 27 cents a bushel. Dust storms prevailed and the children could not play outdoors. Wet cloths were put in the window sills to prevent dust from getting into the house. We had both a hired girl and a hired man in 1932 and 1933. Because of money being scarce, each of them were paid \$1.00 per week from October until April, plus room and board, washing and ironing.

Both Elmer and Stella were interested in organizations helpful to farmers. They were active in the first Non-partisan League (Langer, Lampke and Frazier times) and then in the democratic NPL of which Elmer was a committee man and Stella served Kensington Township as committee woman for 10 years beginning in 1965. They were active in the Walsh County Farmers Union activities; he as a board member and she as a County Junior leader for 32 years and Director of Education for 12 years.

They pioneered the Farmers Union Camps and the Ladies' Farmers Union Camps. They organized new Farmers Union Locals in other counties when Elmer was a field man for the Farmers Union. In 1968 she was honored with thirteen other ladies as a Merit Mother, when the North Dakota Mothers Luncheon was held in Bismarck. She was sponsored by the Walsh County Farmers Union.

Stella took a trip to Norway in 1967 to see the country from which her parents had come. She had a joyous experience when she met three aunts, two uncles and many cousins for the first time.

In 1969, she married William Skjerven Sr., of Park River. He is a former instructor of shop work at the former Walsh County Agricultural School, a former inventor and garage owner. Retired? NO!

Stella was honored with an open house on her 75th birthday in August, 1981, by her family.

(Submitted by Shirley Staven Edwards)

HERBERT STAVEN



Herbert Staven family. Leland, Leona, Herbert and Yvonne.

Herbert (Herbie) Staven was born in Prairie Centre Township in Walsh County, to Mr. and Mrs. Paul Staven.

He went to the Walsh County Agricultural School in Park River. He graduated from Aakers Business College in Grand Forks, N.D.

He married Leona Travenick in 1930, she was born and raised on a farm around Pisek and went to school there. They moved to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where he worked for a brewery and then years later he was a cigar salesman. He served in World War II. He belongs to the American Legion, and they both belong to the Sons of Norway.

They have two children, Leland who is married to Joyce Weddell of Milwaukee. They have three children, Karl, Kurt and Heidi. Leland is a Professor of fine arts at Agnus Scott College of Atlanta, Georgia.

Yvonne married John Jagodinski of Milwaukee, Wisc. They have two sons, Jon and Paul. She has a Ph.D. and is an International Consultant at the Naval Air Station at Jacksonville, Florida, where they are presently residing.

LLOYD AND BYRDIE STAVEN

Byrdie Clemetson was born at Mallard Lake, Minn., one of the daughters of Gustie and Henry Clemetson.

She graduated from WCAS. At school she was a member of the



Byrdie and Lloyd Staven

Glee Club, the Wild Cats and the school orchestra. She then went to Interstate Business College at Fargo, worked for a while and played with an orchestra which was Alden Clemetson and his Royal Knights and played for many years.

Byrdie married Lloyd Staven on October 5, 1937. Lloyd is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Staven and was born in Prairie Centre, Walsh County.

She is a member of the American Legion Auxiliary, Poppy Chairman, St. Ansgar's Hospital Auxiliary, and president for a number of years; Harmony Homemakers Club, was chairman and co-chairman for the Heart Fund, Cancer Fund and Mental Health for Walsh County for many years. She has served on the Foster Grandparents Advisory Council at Grafton for a number of years also.

Lloyd Staven was a State Representative for four years, Walsh County Commissioner for six years; on the Park River City Council for eight years, a member of the St. Ansgar's Hospital Board for a number of years, a member of the fire department and was president. He also was involved with the Commercial Club and Eagles Lodge in Park River and Grafton.

They both belong to the Walsh County Historical Society, the Gyda Varden Sons of Norway Lodge of Grand Forks and are members of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church.

They both were in business in Park River for 21 years, some of the businesses Lloyd and Byrdie owned and operated were the Red Owl, and The Club Bar. They also furnished office buildings such as the ASCS Office, dentist office and the former Park River Clinic.

On October 15, 1983, Lloyd passed away at his home of an apparent heart attack.

THOMAS AND ELIZA STOREY AND FAMILY

Eliza Cook and Thomas Storey were united in marriage on March 10, 1879 at Cedarville, Ont., Canada. They came to Bigwoods, Minn. in 1891 where they resided until 1917 when they moved to a farm near Park River, later moving into Park River. They were the parents of four daughters: Mrs. Del (Barbara) Reinhart, Mrs. Archie D. (Sarah) Gillespie, Mrs. Archie (Agnes) Gillespie, Mrs. John (Mary Ann) Gillespie, and one son, Andrew.

March 10, 1929 they celebrated their Golden Anniversary in the Presbyterian Church parlors, where relatives and friends gathered for a social afternoon. Vocal solos were rendered by Mrs. J. Albert Ferguson and Mrs. Wm. McEachern with Mrs. Lester Campbell at the piano. A song was sung by Neil Campbell

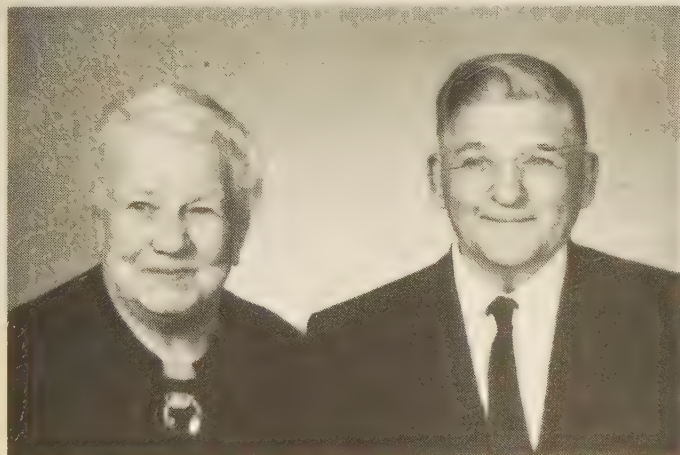


Thomas and Eliza Storey family - 1896. Left to Right: Barbara, Sarah, Thomas, Andrew, Eliza, Agnes and Mary Ann.

accompanied on the piano by Mrs. David Ford. Mr. and Mrs. Storey were presented with \$50 in gold coins. A dinner was served to one hundred guests by four of the honored couples grandchildren, Florence, Gladys, Sadie and Mary Gillespie.

Eliza passed away in 1934 and Thomas in 1935. They are both buried in the Memorial Park Cemetery.

MR. AND MRS. ANDREW STRAND



Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Strand on their Golden Wedding Anniversary.

Andrew Strand was born in Hadland, Norway, in 1876. At the age of 15, after the death of his father, he came to the United States to make his home with relatives at Vining, Minn. The next few years were spent at Vining and later at Grafton, N.D.

In 1891, at the age of 21, he filed on land in Ramsey County, settling three miles west of Edmore. The land is now owned by Alfred Monson. At that time the nearest towns were Devils Lake and Park River. All the lumber for the buildings had to be hauled from Devils Lake. The settlers were often plagued with prairie fires and it was during one of these that his home was destroyed and until he could haul lumber to rebuild, he lived under a wagon box.

In 1898, his sister, Annie (Mrs. Halvor Hellekson) and brother, Ragnvald Strand, came from Norway. His home became their home and Annie proved to be a good cook and housekeeper. She made her home with him until 1905, when she married Halvor Hellekson and settled on a farm near by. Some years later, two other brothers and sister emigrated from Norway. They were

Gilbert, who later made his home at Lawton; Peter, who now lives in Spokane, Wash., and Caroline, who later married John Johnson and moved to Canada.

On New Year's Eve in 1903, Andrew married Karen Olson at the home of her sister, Mrs. Elling Osterhus, at Park River. She, too, had come to New York from Arndal, Norway at the age of 17. She spent nine years working in New York. During this time she made several visits to North Dakota to see her sister and family. It was during her first visit to North Dakota that she met Andrew. Another sister, Christine (Mrs. Ole Svendal), also came from New York and she and her husband settled near Park River. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ole Olson Handland, also came to Park River and in their later years made their home with the Strands at Edmore. The Strands farmed the homestead until 1918, when they bought a farm west of Park River. They lived there until 1945, when they sold both farms and bought a home in Park River.

They have one daughter, Inga, who married Earl Montague on June 25, 1936. Earl passed away in Aug., 1954. Inga makes her home in Park River. She has one daughter, Lynda, who is married to Dr. Harold Harris, and they live in Littleton, CO. They have three children, Leslie Ann, Jeffrey and Douglas.

Mr. and Mrs. Strand celebrated their Golden Wedding at the Garfield Lutheran Church in October, 1953. Mr. Strand passed away in 1963 and Mrs. Strand in 1968.

LAMBERT L. SVIR



Lambert and Emeline Svir

Lambert L. Svir was born in Park River August 20, 1916 to Stanley and Tina Svir. He was raised in the Park River area and served in the U.S. Army Air Corps in England during World War II. He returned to Park River and on December 27, 1945 he married Emeline Sefcik in Pisek, N.D. They owned and operated the drayline from 1947 to 1950. Lambert also worked for Hardy's Chevrolet Garage, Bures Fairway Market, and Walsh County where he operated and maintained heavy equipment. Lambert retired in 1982. He is a past Commander of the American Legion.

Emeline and Lambert had four children, Alice (Mrs. William Carter) of Antioch, CA. Alice has four sons, Shannon, 22, of Concord, CA., Leland, 18, attending diesel mechanic school in Phoenix, AZ.; Armand, 11 and Jac, 3. Mr. Carter owns and operates Carter's Construction Co.

Eileen, (Mrs. Howard Comeaux) of Austin, Tex. They have three sons, Brian, 17, Michael, 14 and Timothy, 9. Mr. Comeaux is in the Air Force and they have been stationed many places in the U.S. and abroad. Eileen has worked as a teacher's aide.

Lambert Jr. served in the Air Force and now works as a carpenter in Antioch, CA. He is married to the former Cathryn Wagner, a nurse for Hospice of Contra Costa County.

Jean (Mrs. Steve Justad) is a second year medical student at the University of Washington. Mr. Justad is a photographer.

Mrs. Emeline Svir passed away in February of 1975 at the age of 49. She had worked for many of the farmers in the area and also as a private nurse.

Lambert remarried in 1977 to the former Thelma Leedal. Thelma died in December of 1982.

STANLEY SVIR



Stanley Svir family

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Svir moved to Park River from the Minto area where he was engaged in farming.

They have eight children, George, Harry, Lambert, Lloyd, Emil, Albert, Eugene and Mabel (Mrs. Tony Budish).

Six sons were in the service.

Twenty-five grandchildren and several great-great and great-grandchildren also.

ALLEN AND MARLENE SWENSON



Left to Right: Allen Swenson holding Jason, Marlene Swenson holding Timothy.

Allen Swenson was born March 8, 1947, the son of Annie (Hanson) Swenson and the late Lewis Swenson. He attended elementary and Walsh County Agricultural School in Park River. In 1968, he entered the Army and was discharged in 1970, having

served in Viet Nam.

On June 29, 1974, he married Marlene Jergenson. She is the daughter of Beatrice Jergenson and the late Elmer Jergenson. Allen and Marlene now live at Minto, N.D., where Allen works for Harriston Industries since 1979. They have two boys, Jason Allen, born in Park River on January 26, 1976 and Timothy John, born in Grafton on May 27, 1979. Marlene is a member of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Minto.

ELDEN SYRUP FAMILY



The Elden Syrup family. Standing (L-R): LaRae, Dan and Diana. Seated: Esther, Michael and Eldon.

Elden and Esther Syrup were born and raised in the Eyfjord community, near Walhalla, N.D. They moved to Park River in 1958. Elden works as a salesman for Larson Chevrolet and Esther is employed at the Good Samaritan Center.

The Syrup's had four children, all educated in the Park River school system;

Daniel, who lives in Grand Forks, and works in the construction industry.

Diane, who is employed at the Hettinger Hospital as a medical Lab technician.

LaRae who is a senior in the Park River High School and Michael, who is in the eighth grade.

E.J. TAINTOR

E.J. Taintor was born in Winona, Minnesota in 1892. He graduated from Iowa State Agricultural College with a Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture.

He was an instructor in Agriculture in Grafton, N.D. for two years, 1915-1917.

He served in World War I for two years, 1917-1919. On his return from his service in France he was instructor of Agriculture at the Walsh County Agricultural and Training School. He became Superintendent of the WCAS in 1921 and served in that position until his retirement in 1940. In 1922 he married Jewel Haugen of Gilby and they had two children, Wayne and Marilyn.

Mr. Taintor was active in community affairs as well as school activities. He served as state secretary of the American Vocational Association, secretary of the Northeastern Breeders Association, secretary of the State Potato Association, and state committee member of the North Dakota Educational Association. He served as president of the Park River Civic Club, Commander of the Paul Farup Post No. 147 of the American



E.J. Tainter, Superintendent of W.C.A.S.

Legion, Assistant Master of the Golden Valley Lodge No. 26, affiliated with Woodmen, A.O.U.W., Shrine and a trustee of the Presbyterian Church.

His main interests were to develop better grain, quality seed potatoes, and better cattle for Walsh County.

While superintendent of the school, enrollment at WCAS increased from 44 students to 310. He wanted to include academic programs so the students would be ready to meet the problems of the world.

HERBERT THIELE FAMILY

It was a hot, humid day, August 2, 1944, when Herb, Ethel and Camille arrived in Park River. They were natives of North Dakota but had been in the state of Michigan where Herb taught school for two years. Now he was under contract to teach Farm Shop and Mechanics Art in Park River. He held this position for 33 years when Park River Special School District No. 78 took over Walsh County Agricultural School. At this time the Board of Education voted to eliminate the position. Herb also had the grade school physical education program from December, 1944 through 1950 in the Special School District No. 78. He and his wife, Ethel, supervised the boy's dormitory until 1961.

Herb taught the Fordville School System for two years after which he retired from the profession.

A son, Herbert Johnny, was born March 16, 1948 in Grafton, N.D. After completing his public school education, he attended NDSU from where he graduated with an Industrial Engineering Degree. He married Karen Gilleshammer of Grafton. They with their children, Joanna, Preston and Peter live in St. Thomas, N.D.

Camille Ann received a degree in nursing from the University of North Dakota, and she has returned to part-time work in her

profession. She is married to James Strandberg. They and their three children, Brian, Brent and Beth live in Akron, Ohio.

Family members have been active in the work of the Park River Federated Church and other community activities.

Herb passed away March 19, 1983 after a prolonged illness. His wife, Ethel, continues to live in the family home.

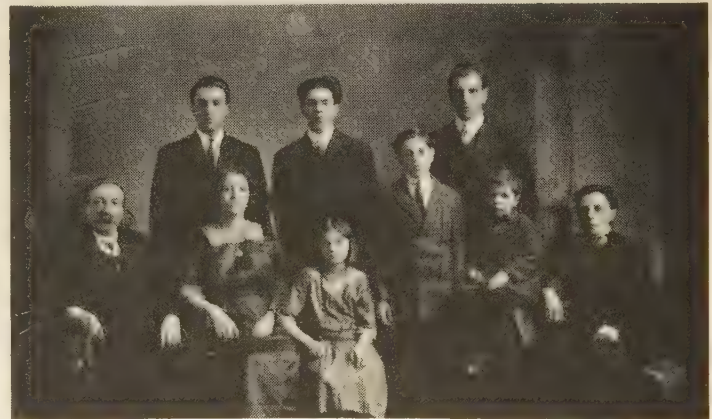
MR. AND MRS. T.T. THOMPSON



T.T. Thompson - 1928



Mrs. T.T. Thompson (Jennie) - 1928



T.T. Thompson family - 1911. Front row: T.T. Thompson, Alma, Ida, Millard (on arm of mothers chair) and Jennie. Standing: Seymour, Thurman, Juel and Clarence.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Thompson were born in Norway. They emigrated to the USA and landed in Rushford, Minnesota. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson were married in Austin, Minn., on May 14, 1883. They moved to Dakota Territory in 1884. In 1891, they moved into Park River with two young sons, Clarence and Seymour. Mr. Thompson operated a general store until 1912 when he sold to Joseph Kowalski and John Kowalski. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson were active in the Lutheran Church. Mr. Thompson served on the building committee in March, 1895 when the congregation decided to build a church. Mrs. Thompson served 27 consecutive years as treasurer of the Ladies Aid. Mr. Thompson also served on the City Council for several years. Mr. Thompson died January 25, 1929 at age 71 and Mrs. Thompson died October 17, 1951 at age 88. They had seven children, Clarence (1888-1971); Seymour, (1890-1975); Thurman (1894-1977); Alma G. (1898-1961); Juel, (1900-1978); Ida (1902-1955); Millard (1907-1982).

FRIDJON THORLEIFSON



Mr and Mrs. Fridjon Thorleifson

Fridjon Thorleifson, native of Gardar, N.D., and wife, Laufey (Halldorson) from Mountain, N.D. came to Park River in 1931, where Thorleifson was instructor at the Walsh County Ag School for twelve years, and principal for 23 years.

He received his B.S.E.E. degree and Masters Degree in education from the University of North Dakota. While there, he was a member of Beta Theta Pi Fraternity and later was named member of the Phi Delta Kappa Honorary Fraternity of UND.

To earn money for college, Fridjon played semi-pro baseball for three seasons. Following graduation, Fridjon spent three years in Chicago, working in the office of Public Service Co. of Northern Illinois and one year in California as sales manager for Okeef and Merritt Co. He attended summer sessions at Valley City and UND.

In 1931, he arrived in Park River, where he taught short course for six years and coached the freshmen basketball team. The Thorleifson's were house parents the first two years when the boy's dormitory was organized. In 1975, Fridjon was named an Honorary member of the Aggie Alumni Association and received the Honorary State Farmer Degree. He is a 50-year member of the Masonic Lodge and the American Legion. The Thorleifson's are members of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church of Park River, where Fridjon served as deacon and president of the congregation for two years, and Laufey was active in ALCW.

The Thorleifson's were house parents at the Girls' Dormitory for thirteen years. When Fridjon retired from teaching in 1966, he spent ten years working in the office of Burbidge Certified Seed Co.

Laufey attended Mayville State Teachers College and taught grade school in Pembina County for three years. She has been a member of the Book and Discussion Club for 45 years and Eastern Star and American Legion Auxiliary.

The Thorleifson's have one daughter, Katherine Lea Marcil and two grandchildren.

JACK MARCIL (Katherine Thorleifson)

Katherine Lea (Thorleifson) Marcil, native of Park River and husband, Jack Marcil from Sherwood, N.D. and their two children, Jacqueline Lea, age 18 and Michael, age 13, live in



Mr. and Mrs. Jack Marcil

Fargo, N.D.

Katherine received her Bachelor of Science degree from UND in Grand Forks and her Masters Degree from NDSU in Fargo. Katherine works as an Employee Program Counselor for Southeast Mental Health Center in Fargo.

Jack Marcil received his degree in Business Administration and his Law Degree from UND. He is an attorney-at-law at Tenneson, Serkland, Lundberg, Erickson and Marcil, LTD. In 1982, he was State President of the Trial Lawyer Association of North Dakota.

Katherine and Jack Marcil spent the first two years of their married life in Germany where Jack was stationed as Lieutenant in the Armed Services. The Marcils are members of Olivet Lutheran Church in Fargo.

PAUL TORGERSON FAMILY



Paul Torgerson family

Paul Torgerson, Fairdale, N.D., and Joyce Espelien, Lankin, N.D., were married in May of 1960, at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church at Park River, and have made their home in Park River since their marriage.

Paul, the son of Clinton and Verna (Overbye) Torgerson, was

born at Fairdale and attended school there. He served in the Marine Corp. from 1956-1959 and was stationed at Okinawa. He was employed by Polar Telephone Company in Park River, as crew foreman for ten years. He is now consignee for Mobil Oil Company bulk plant and owns Paul's Service Station in Park River. Paul is presently an alderman of the Park River City Council. He is an honorary member of the Park River Volunteer Fire Department, of which he was Fire Chief for three years. He is a former member of the Park River Jaycees and served as its president, and the Park River Ambulance Service. Paul has four brothers and five sisters.

Joyce, the daughter of Clarence and Ethel (Orstad) Espelien of Fordville, N.D., was born at Edinburg, and later moved to rural Lankin, where she attended grade school at Norton No. 69, and graduated from WCAS at Park River in 1956. She has been employed at Polar Telephone Company, later named Polar Communications Corporation, since 1956, as their Administrative Secretary. She is a member of GFWC Decca Club and served as president the past year; Park River Women's Bowling Association and served as president in 1981-82; served as secretary-treasurer of WCAS Alumni Association; and is a member of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church ALCW. Joyce has one brother, Orvin Espelien, who also lives in Park River.

They have two children, a son, Larry, born March 10, 1961, and daughter, Patty, born October 14, 1962. They graduated from Park River High School in 1980.

RONALD VAVROSKY



Back row: Donald, Marjorie, Ronald and Douglas. Front row: Kathy and Karen.

Ronald Vavrosky, son of Minnie Vavrosky and the late Tim Vavrosky was born on May 31, 1933, in Pisek, N.D. Ronald moved to Park River with his family when he was young and attended schools there. He attended Aaker's Business College in Grand Forks and later opened a tavern in Park River. After several years in the tavern business, Ronald went to work as a butter maker in the local creamery. After a few years in the creamery business, he began work as an iron worker, and continues to do iron work today.

Ronald married Marjorie Widme on January 12, 1955. She is the daughter of Ida Widme and the late George Widme of Park River. Marjorie was born in Mahnomen, Minn., on February 25, 1934. She attended schools in Park River and later North Dakota State University and Mayville State College. She has been employed as a sales clerk for Johnson's Store and Peterson's Department store in Park River for many years.

Ronald and Marjorie have four children, Douglas, Donald, Karen and Kathryn.

Douglas Ray was born November 10, 1955. He attended NDSU-Bottineau and later Briercrest Bible College in Caronport, Saskatchewan, Canada, where he received a degree in religious education. He is married to Avril Botha of Port Elizabeth, South Africa. Doug and Avril are both missionaries in Taichung, Taiwan, R.O.C.

Donald Lee was born November 15, 1957. He graduated from the University of North Dakota with a degree in journalism and has worked as a counselor at the North Dakota School for the Deaf in Devils Lake for the past two years.

Karen Marie was born February 14, 1959. She graduated from Wahpeton State School of Science and is presently employed as a licensed practical nurse in the bone marrow transplant unit of the University of Minnesota Hospital in Minneapolis. She is also working towards a degree in business at the University of Minnesota.

Kathryn Jo was born February 1, 1962. She graduated from Joseph's School of Hair Design in Minot and is presently employed as a beautician at Budget Hair Cutters in Grand Forks.

Ronald and Marjorie make their home in Park River.

TIM VAVROSKY FAMILY



Tim and Minnie Vavrosky

Tim Vavrosky, the son of James and Eleanor (Maresh) Vavrosky, was born in 1907 and raised in the Pisek- Veseleyville area. Tim came to Park River in 1930 after attending barber college in Minneapolis to begin his career as a barber working for Louis Pritchard. Two years later Tim opened his own barber shop on Main Street where he remained for 48 years. Haircuts were only 35 cents in those early days and Tim always had a joke or bit of advice on hand.

Tim married Minnie Nymon of rural Park River in 1930 and they had two sons, Tim Jr., born in 1932 and Ronald, in 1933.

Along with his barbering business, Tim began selling insurance in 1942 for State Farm Insurance out of an apple crate in his barber shop. In 1967, Tim received a special honor by State Farm for 25 years of outstanding service. He continued to sell insurance through 1978 while also engaging in real estate sales and development. Tim retired from State Farm after 35 years of service and sold his insurance business in 1978. Among Tim's many business involvements, he was president of the Powers Lake Petroleum Company which drilled several wells in eastern North Dakota.

Throughout the years Tim was very active in North Dakota politics, being Chairman of the Walsh County Democratic Party for a number of years under the Kennedy Administration. Tim

was personally invited to the Inaugural of John F. Kennedy by a letter from Senator Robert Kennedy. The Walsh County Democrats endorsed Tim for Congress in 1958 and was subsequently endorsed for State Insurance Commissioner while at the state convention.

Tim participated in many community organizations. He served as director of St. Mary's Catholic Church, was a member of the Park River Commercial Club and the Park River Volunteer Fire Department.

Tim and Minnie were both avid fishing enthusiasts who spent much of their leisure time fishing the lakes in northern Minnesota and Ontario, and of course they never tired of their own backyard lake, Homme Dam. Gardening was an equally important part of Tim and Minnie's life together. They always had a large garden and at one time had six apple trees. They also enjoyed socializing with their friends over a game of cards and hosting family and friends for holidays and special occasions.

Tim passed away in September of 1979 leaving Minnie, his wife

of 49 years, who still resides in Park River; three brothers, Jerome and Steve of Woodland, WA., and Ray of Sweet Home, Oregon; two sons, Tim Jr. of Fargo and Ronald of Park River, eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild.



Left to right: Rebecca, Steven, Carol, Tim Jr., Michael and Thomas.

Tim Jr. of Fargo has been associated with Warner and Company as an insurance broker for fourteen years and is a stockholder in ownership of the company. Tim Jr. married Carol Bergquam of Grafton in 1952 and lived in Park River until 1967 when they moved to Fargo. They had four children, Michael, age 30, who lives in Park River and travels extensively; Rebecca, 29, who is married to Ronald Zuber and living in Anacortes, Washington; Steven, 28, who is attending North Dakota State University in Fargo after serving in the United States Navy for four years; and Thomas, 25, who works and lives in Fargo and married Marsha Davis in 1977 with one daughter, Heather, age six.

Ronald is an iron worker and outdoorsman marrying Marjorie Widme of Park River in 1955 and had four children; Douglas, age 27 of Taiwan, Republic of China, where he and his wife, Avril (Botha) are missionaries; Donald, 25, who is working for the North Dakota School for the Deaf in Devils Lake after graduating from the University of North Dakota; Karen, 24, who attends the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis and is a nurse at the U of M Hospital; and Kathy, 21, who is a beautician in Grand Forks.

GUTTORM(BONY) AND IDA VERALRUD



Guttorm and Ida Veralrud - 1922.



Veralrud 40th wedding anniversary - 1962. Left to right: Linda, Mildred, Bony, Gordon, Ida and Jim.

Guttorm Veralrud was born at Oak Park district, Oslo, Minn. He served overseas in World War I.

On November 21, 1922, he married Ida Linderud of Alvarado, Minn. They lived in Duluth, Minn., where Bony worked on the Iron Range and Ida worked at a hotel. They observed their 40th wedding anniversary in Park River in 1962.

In the early 30's, they moved to the rural Park River area. Bony worked for Clark Farup, Oscar Johnson and Hans Larson. He also worked 18 years for the Walsh County Highway Department. Ida worked for 17 years as head cook at the grade school. Both Guttorm and Ida are deceased.

Guttorm and Ida had four children, Gordon and James, Mildred and Linda.

Gordon served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He served in Guam, Okinawa, and the South Seas for two years. He was discharged in California. He married the former Alice Woolridge, and they still reside in California.

James served in the U.S. Army in Gen. Patton's 90th Infantry Division for two years. He received three battle stars and combat infantry badge. He was discharged in July, 1946 at Camp McCoy, Wisc. Jim never married and still resides in Park River. He is employed by Ag. Supplies, Inc. and is active in the American

Legion.

Mildred is married to Irv Nielson and resides in Minneapolis, Minn. Linda is married to Robert (Bob) Mastre and resides in Fargo, N.D.

MELVIN VERALRUD



Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Veralrud - Oct. 16, 1926.



Standing: Melvin Jr., Jean, June, Melvina and Elton. Seated: Ellen and Melvina Veralrud.

Melvin Veralrud of Oslo, Minnesota married Ellen Alstrom of Warren, Minn., on October 16, 1926.

They came to Park River in 1928 and worked for Lars Larson, then Hans Larson and Clark Farup. They moved into Park River in the 1960's.

They have five children, Melvina was married to Lloyd Corbit. They had three boys. She lives in Grand Forks, N.D.

June is married to Don Green. They have three boys and live in Evansville, Indiana.

Elton married Karen Eyolfson and they have one son and three daughters. They live in Carlsbad, New Mexico.

Jean married Larry Johnson and they have three boys. They live in Grand Forks, N.D.

Melvin, Jr., married Judy Monsebroten and they have one boy and one girl. They live in Park River.

Melvin and Ellen have fifteen grandchildren and fifteen great-grandchildren.

GUSTAV KRISTIAN WALSTAD



Gust and Christine (Larson) Walstad - Dec. 9, 1913.

A pretty wedding took place at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ole Larson on Tuesday when their daughter, Miss Christina Larson, was united in marriage to Mr. Gustav Walstad. The Rev. Mr. Shurson, of Dundee, officiated in the presence of a large circle of friends and relatives. The bride wore a beautiful gown of white messaline silk trimmed with all-over net of silk, with all accessories to match, and carried a large bouquet of bridal roses. The groom wore a suit of blue serge. An elaborate wedding dinner was served immediately after the ceremony and the table and dining room was beautified with roses. The contracting parties are well known in this community and a host of friends unite in wishing them much marital happiness. Mr. and Mrs. Walstad will make their future home in Grafton.

Gustav Kristian Walstad, son of Gunerius and Christine Iverson Walstad, was born in Blackearth, Wisc., on April 20, 1877. He came to North Dakota on an immigrant train to Grand Forks. He traveled by covered wagon with his parents to homestead near Hoople. In 1913, Gust married Christine Larson, the daughter of Ole Larson, on December 9, 1914. They lived in Grafton, Hallock & Lake Bronson before returning to Kensington Township to farm. Gust and Christine had nine children; Clayton Garfield, Adeline Ovidia (Bohn); Hazel Luella (Stautz); Lila Virginia (McCauley); Percy Eldon, Glenna Mae (Tallackson); Wayne Curtis, Delores Elaine (Longtin). One daughter, Jane, died in 1930 at the age of two.

In 1932 they moved to Park River but continued to farm and milk cows. They sold milk and cream for some years. The children all attended the Park River Schools.

In 1944, they moved to St. Paul and returned two years later when they owned and operated the Mobil Gas Station and Lunch Stand. They operated this for about ten years. Gust Walstad died in March, 1965. Christina Walstad died in October, 1959.

CLAYTON GARFIELD WALSTAD

Clayton Walstad was born on November 14, 1914, the son of Gust and Christine Walstad. He has two brothers, Percy and Wayne and five sisters, Adeline, Hazel, Lila, Glenna and Delores. Clayton was born in Grafton but moved to Hallock, Minn., at an early age. His parents then moved to a quarter of land near Lake Bronson, Minn.



Clayton Walstad with Belgian Horse

Clayton has memories of his dad clearing woods, and remembers the wolves howling in the yard while his folks were out doing chores. The family moved to a farm near Park River and Clayton, being the oldest, worked hard on the farm- with horses- and helped milk cows at an early age. The Walstads had a dairy and in 1932 they moved to town and had a milk route. The parents moved to town so the older children could attend high school.

Clayton worked with his dad until he took over the farming operation in the early 40's and he continued to farm until he semi-retired in 1972. Clayton continues to raise Belgian horses and enjoys gardening. He has been collecting antiques and works with older machinery, especially his 1912 Hart Parr Model. Clayton attends many parades, machinery shows, and antique shows. In 1979 he moved a mobile home onto the Walstad farmstead, 2½ miles north of Park River. Clayton is a member of the Northeast Pioneer Machinery Association, Sons of Norway and Walsh Curling Club.

Clayton was married to Jean Turner Keenan on January 28, 1984.

ADELINE WALSTAD BOHN

Adeline, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gust Walstad of Park River, N.D., was born in Hallock, Minn., but grew up in Park River and graduated from WCAS.

She worked during high school and afterwards at Zaiser's Fashion Shoppe which was a well-known Dress Shop in Park River. She also managed a dress shop in Walhalla, N.D. which was also owned by Mabel Zaiser from Park River. Later she went to St. Paul, Minn., and worked at Rothschild's in fashion sales.

She married Stewart Bohn in St. Paul and they had three boys, Michael, Donald and David. Her husband died in 1967. Adeline has seven grandchildren.



Adeline (Walstad) and Stewart Bohn

HAZEL WALSTAD AND OSWALD STAUTZ



Hazel and Oswald Stautz

Hazel, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gust Walstad of Park River, was born in Lake Bronson, Minn., but grew up and attended eighth grade and graduated from WCAS in Park River.

Hazel worked at Chike's Cafe, worked at the Triple A office. Later she went to Fargo to the beauty school and worked at the Deluxe Beauty Shop, owned by Ella Hanson.

She married Oswald, better known as Ozzie Stautz, in 1942. Ozzie was the son of Oswald and Anna Stautz. Ozzie's father owned and operated a blacksmith shop in Park River for many years. Ozzie graduated from WCAS and went to school for refrigeration. He joined the Navy and was placed in the Seabees, and saw action in the South Pacific. When he returned he was in the refrigeration and heating business in Park River and also Hazel and Ozzie came into the cafe business with Lila and Ted McCauley.

They moved to California and Oregon where Ozzie worked in

refrigeration and Hazel worked as food service supervisor of the school district in Grants Pass, Oregon. They had one son, Gary. Ozzie passed away in 1979 and Hazel is retired in Grants Pass, Oregon. She has two grandchildren, Jeffrey Curtis Stautz and Kristina Lee Stautz.

LILA WALSTAD AND JAMES McCaULEY



James and Lila McCauley

Lila, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gust Walstad of Park River, was born on a farm north of Park River, attended the seventh and eighth grades in town and graduated from WCAS. She went to Fairview Hospital in Minneapolis, Minn., after high school and trained as an x-ray technician.

In 1942, Lila married James McCauley, better known as "Ted". His parents were Mr. and Mrs. William McCauley, also pioneers of Walsh County. He graduated from WCAS and attended one year of college at Fargo, N.D., before entering the U.S. Army in 1941. He served 48 months in the Army and 38 months overseas in the Pacific. When he returned we owned and operated the former Ben Arness Cafe in Park River with Hazel and Ozzie Stautz. Later we returned to St. Paul, Minn., and James worked for the U.S. Postal Service.

They have two children, both born in Park River, Sheryl Ann and Larry, both married and in Minneapolis, Minn. They have three grandchildren, Michael James, Kristine Ann and Deidre Marie McCauley.

PERCY WALSTAD



Gustav, Christina, Leona and Percy Walstad - Sept. 3, 1950.

Percy Eldon Walstad, born in 1923, was the fifth child of Gustav and Christina Larson Walstad. He was educated in the Park River schools. After graduation he enlisted in the Navy and served in World War II. He was discharged in 1946. After his discharge he farmed with his brother, Clayton, had the bulk truck for Mobil Oil Company until 1957. He worked for Silliman Implement Co. until 1971 when he went back to farming.

Percy married Leona Mauritson, third daughter of Garfield and Ruth Coulter Mauritson, in 1950. Leona was educated in the Park River schools and graduated from Sisters of St. Joseph School of Nursing in 1948. She was employed by Park River Clinic for nine years and has been working at St. Ansgar's Hospital since 1959.

They have both been active in community affairs. Percy has been Commander of the American Legion Post No. 147, volunteer fireman, alderman for the Third Ward for two years and Mayor of Park River since 1962. Leona has been a member of P.E.O. Sisterhood, Decca Club, Good Samaritan Board and American Legion Auxiliary. She enjoys reading, knitting, bowling and bridge. They are both members of the Presbyterian Church.

GLENNA MAE WALSTAD TALLACKSON



Glenna and Harvey Tallackson family. Back row: Debra Wilhelm, Tom, Amy Elbert, Lynda Ackert. Front row: Harvey, Laura and Glenna.

Glenna Mae Walstad, daughter of Christina (Larson) and Gustav Walstad, was born in 1925 and raised in Park River, attended Park River grade school and WCAS. She worked for Frances and Harold Gillespie at the Texaco Inn during the summer of her high school years, attended Interstate Business College and worked at the A.S.C. office.

In 1946 Glenna Mae married Harvey Dean Tallackson of rural Grafton. Both have been active in community affairs as well as the Walsh County Fair.

Glenna is a member of the G.F.W.C. Decca Club, Countryside Homemakers, has been president of the Aggie Alumni Association, chairman of two all-class reunions- one in 1976 and one in 1984. Harvey is director of Nodak Rural Electric and Minkota Power Co-op, Grand Forks, for many years. He was elected to the North Dakota Senate in 1976 as a Democrat.

Harvey and Glenna are parents to five children who attended Park River schools.

Lynda Jane married Gary Ackert and they have two children, Elizabeth Stacy and Christina Mae Ackert.

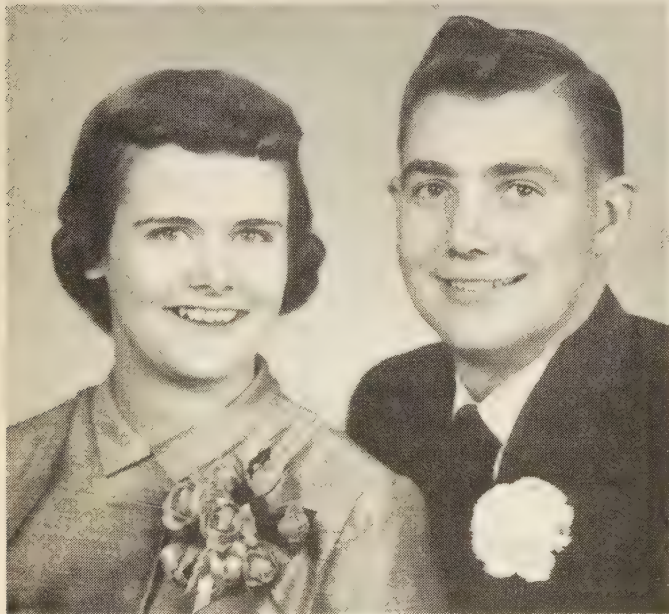
Thomas Keith married Diane Barrie and they have three children, Trevor Dean, Barry Tyler and Sarah Jayne Tallackson.

Debra Kris married Steve Wilhelm, and they have one son, Nicholas Stephen Wilhelm.

Amy Jolene married Dale Elbert and they have two children, Andrew Dale and Amanda Jo Elbert. Daughter Laura Faye Tallackson is a freshman at Park River High School.

Both Harvey and Glenna are active members in the Zion Lutheran Church of rural Hoople.

WAYNE WALSTAD



Wayne and Kay Walstad

Wayne, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gust Walstad of Park River, grew up and attended school in Park River also. Upon high school graduation, he enlisted in the Air Force for four years and flew during the Korean War.

After the service, he married Clarice (Kay) Bestland from Crystal, N.D. and farmed for two years near Park River and Michigan, N.D. He then went to Minneapolis to school in the field of electronics. Since then he has been employed by Honeywell Inc., as a field service person.

Wayne and Kay live in Fort Worth, Texas and they have four children, Joseph, Sandra, Barbara and Paula. They have two grandchildren.

DELORES WALSTAD AND GARY LONGTIN

Delores, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gust Walstad of Park River is better known as "DeDe". She was born and grew up in Park River and attended school here. Upon high school graduation she attended training at Miller Hospital in St. Paul, Minn., and graduated as a practical nurse. DeDe worked at St. Ansgar's Hospital in Park River.

In 1954 Delores married Gary Longtin of the Backoo-Walhalla area. They are parents of six children, Phillip, LuCinda, Jolanda, Roderick, Terry and Marie. They have five grandchildren.



Delores (Walstad) and Gary Longtin

ADOLPH AND SOPHIE WANG



Adolph Wang in his early 20's.



Sophie Veralrud Wang



Mr. and Mrs. Adolph Wang 50th Wedding Anniversary - 1961

Adolph Wang was born in Oak Park Township, Oslo, Minn., on April 15, 1883. His parents were John Henrick Wang, an immigrant from Eidsvoll, Romerike, Norway and Karen Erickson Wang from Nannestad, Romerike, Norway. He was one of twelve children- namely: Herman, Herbert, Joseph, Melvin and Alfred, all deceased, Mrs. Carl (Selma) Haugen, deceased, Mrs. Albin (Thea) Swanson; Mrs. Gustav (Clara) Swanson, deceased; Mrs. Wm. (Emma) Larson; Ella, deceased and Mrs. Bennie (Myrtle) Peterson.

He attended school which was located near his home. It was a one-room school and he completed the required eight grades. In the summer he went to parochial school for a month, also known as Norske Skolen. They were taught to read Norwegian and also the Catechism.

The family attended the Big Woods Lutheran Church where he was baptized and confirmed.

Sophie Veralrud Wang was born June 21, 1890, in Oak Park Township, Oslo, Minn., to Nels Guttormson Veralrud who had come to America in 1887 from Opdal, Numedahl, Norway and Turi Gulbranson Veralrud from Nore, Numedahl, Norway. She came to America in 1887. She was the oldest of a family of seven. She had six brothers, Guttorm, Gilbert and Hildor, all deceased. Anton, Thom and Melvin, who are still living.

Sophie attended the same school as Adolph, but her education was curtailed at an early age to help at home because of her Mother's illness. Her family were also members of Big Woods Lutheran Church and she was baptized and confirmed there.

Adolph and Sophie were united in marriage on May 18, 1911, and they built a new home on the banks of the Snake River, north of Oslo, Minn. Floods were frequent along the river and boats were needed in the spring to commute between town and farm homes to acquire needed supplies and mail.

Seven children were born to Adolph and Sophie. All were born at home without the care of a doctor. A midwife, who was a neighbor, assisted with all the deliveries.

John married Helen Cizl and they live in Oslo, Minn. They are the parents of three sons, twins Tim and Tom, and Terry. They have two grandchildren.



Front row: Myrtle, Gilbert, Verna. **Middle row:** Lila, Alpha. **Back row:** John, Clarence.

Clarence lives in Park River. He has one daughter, Tami.

Lila married Russell Lien, they live in Park River. They have five children, Mrs. Jerome (Janice) Englerth, Jerry is deceased; Mrs. David (Sharon) Laaveg, both of Park River; Gary of Grand Forks; Richard of Hoople; and Mrs. Richard (Lona) Anderson, Thief River Falls, Minn. They have eleven grandchildren. A son, Alan Ross, died in 1945 at the age of nine months.

Alpha married Melvin Peterson and they live in Park River, and have one daughter, Mrs. Gerald (Yvonne) Lorton. They also have two grandchildren.

Verna married Orville Lien, they live in Worthington, Minn. Their daughter, Mrs. George (Carolyn) Hoffman lives in Palm



Front row: Sophie Wang, Nels and Turi Veralrud, and Thom. **Back row:** Hildor, Guttorm, Anton and Melvin.

Springs, California and son Lonnie lives in Worthington. They have five grandchildren.

Gilbert married Carol Lindell and they live in Park River. They have three daughters, Mrs. Larry (Kathy) Houser, Park River; Robbi, Park River; and Mrs. Jeff (Mary) Mericle of Littleton, Colo. A son, Dale, also lives in Park River. A son, Donald, passed away in Oct. of 1981, at the age of 32 years. They have six grandchildren.

Myrtle married Daniel Penas and also reside in Park River. They have three daughters, Mrs. David (Nancy) Houser and Julie both of Park River, and Cheryl of Fargo, N.D. They have two grandchildren.

Adolph became a carpenter in his youth and many a big red barn and other buildings are still standing that he built in his neighborhood. He and his brother, Herbert, operated a steam threshing rig and did custom work for farmers in a wide area. In the winter he had trap lines along the Snake River. Furred animals were plentiful in those days and many pelts were stretched by lamplight on the long winter nights.

Adolph had many talents and were put to good use in his neighborhood. He did barbering, butchering, shoe repair, cleaned guns, home repair work and several other tasks that were needed on the spur of the moment.

Barn dances were a means of entertainment in those days and he was always on hand to furnish the music on his violin.

Sophie had her duties cut out for her. To feed and clothe seven children in those days was no easy task. The clothes were all made at home, some from used garments which took a great deal of her time. Like everyone else, she canned vegetables and fruit, made the bread, churned the butter, and helped others when help was needed.

The winter of 1923 was a time of many memorable hardships for the family. It was one of the coldest winters on record and snow many feet deep. At Christmas time three of the children were stricken with scarlet fever, it was a dreaded disease and they were very sick. Dr. Wilttrout from Oslo made many trips in the bitter weather to care for them. In those days, after contagious diseases had been in a home, they used a process called "fumigating", which was supposed to kill the germs and keep it from spreading. While this was going on, you had to move out for a day or so. There was a cook car in their yard, so the family moved into that for the time it took to go through this process. While this was going on, word came that Sophie's brother, Gilbert had been killed in a mining accident on the

Mesebi Iron Range where he worked. Sophie was expecting her sixth child in April, and when the baby came it was a boy and he was named Gilbert.

That spring the flood waters stretched for miles and miles. We did not leave our home for several weeks because travel was not possible.

In 1929, Adolph moved his family to North Dakota. The depression had hit and there were no carpenter jobs and other work was scarce. They moved to a farm owned by Theo Rinde in Dundee Township and he sharecropped.

The children went to school in Dundee. Some of their teachers were Margaret Almen, Alice Berg, Borghild Samson, Ethel Vesledahl and Ida Hanson. They were active in the Park Centre Lutheran Church where Clarence, Lila, Alpha and Verna were confirmed.

In 1936, the family moved to Park River. Adolph did carpenter work for E.J. Taintor for several years and in the winter he worked in the potato warehouse.

Adolph and Sophie celebrated 61 years of marriage before he passed away at the age of 90 years. Sophie died December 31, 1983.

WILLIAM WARNER FAMILY



William Warner - 1901



Gertina Pederson Warner - 1901

William Warner and his brothers, Simon, Edward, John and Harry, came to Park River, N.D. in 1880.

They came by train to Grand Forks, from Racine, Wisconsin, bringing six oxen and a team of horses. William Warner was selling fanning mills for the J.I. Case Company in the territory.

Mr. Warner filed on land in Rushford Township, Walsh County. The U.S. Patent was dated October 4, 1884.

The brothers filed in the same vicinity. The Warners built a sod shanty and planted trees. William Warner and Emma Mierhoff were married in March of 1882 in Racine, Wisconsin. They returned to the farmstead and raised a family of four children, Fred, Will Jr., Geneva and Elmer. Fred was born in the sod shanty. A few years later a framehouse was built and the other three children were born there. Louis and Herbert Warner, sons of Edward Warner, were also born there.

William Warner built a house in Park River, where the St. Ansgar's Hospital now stands, this house was moved off the lot and is now the Tallackson Apartment house. William Warner spent his entire life in Walsh County. His wife, Emma, sang in the Presbyterian Church choir and was active in Eastern Star until her death in 1899.



Top: Elmer, Geneva. Bottom: Fred, Will, Jr.

William Warner's brother, Simon, built a house in Park River. He worked at the C.E. Nelson store and later moved to Seattle, Washington. Edward and John Warner returned to Racine, Wisconsin. Harry Warner moved to Kenmare, N.D.

William Warner's son, Fred, worked for Ed. Code who had the first telephone exchange in Park River. Fred installed telephones in town between his home and those of his high school friends. Fred graduated from Park River High School in 1903. Fred married Frances Higgins of Red Wing, Minn. They lived in Fargo and Minneapolis where Fred was an electrical engineer for Northwestern Telephone Company. They had four children.

Will Warner, Jr. graduated from Park River school in 1907. He taught at Rushford School No. 1 for a short time. He moved to Fargo, N.D. and was a mail clerk on the railroad. He married Lila Ingalls from Jamestown, N.D. They moved to Denver, Colorado where Will continued to work for the mail service, retiring in 1952. Will Warner and his family were members of the Grandview Congregational Church and he helped organize their shuffle-board club in Berkeley Park, Denver, Colo. They had two sons.

Geneva Warner became the wife of Reuben Roberts of Racine, Wisconsin. They had two daughters. Reuben was a clerk in the Post Office for fifty years. He was recognized in 1967 for teaching over fifty years in the Holy Communion Lutheran Church School. He had also been superintendent of the church school for many years. Twelve of the young boys he had in the church school became ministers, including his grandson, Rev. Edward Aller.

Elmer Warner, born in 1891, went to Saskatchewan to homestead in 1911. His wife, the former Lottie Hillier was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Hillier of Cashel. She taught at Rushford school in 1909-1910. She moved to Saskatchewan with her mother and brothers and married Elmer Warner there. Elmer and Lottie were members of the United Church of Canada. They lived on the farm for fifty years and then moved to Orkney, Sask. Lottie and Elmer lived to celebrate their fiftieth wedding anniversary. Lottie died in 1975 and Elmer died in 1979.

William Warner Sr. married Gertina Pederson in December of 1901. Gertina was born in Norway and came to America when she was 19 years old. She spent some time in Mankato, Minnesota when she first came from Norway. William and Gertina had three daughters, Vera, Alice and Laura. Alice died when she was eight years old, 1914. The family moved into Park River again in 1924.



Vera (Warner) Fisher - 1959.

Vera Warner clerked at the Finneseth Co. for several years and later was librarian at the City Library. She married George Fisher on October 17, 1959, and moved to his farm near Grafton. George died in 1968 and Vera returned to Park River to live. Vera is a member of the Federated Church in Park River. Vera wrote poetry that was published in North Dakota PRAIRIE WINGS magazine.

Vera died on January 29, 1984.

Published in PRAIRIE WINGS, October 1939

THREE PENNIES

He was just a little lad
Not more than four years old,
He stood beside the candy case
To make a purchase bold.
He told the clerk in a business way
As he eyed each candy bar,
"I want one of thum and one of thum,
And one of thum tharr!!"

--Vera H. Warner

(Vera Warner Fisher waited on this little customer when she clerked at Finneseth's Store in the thirties. The candy case was popular with young and old.

CHURCH SUPPER

It happened at the supper,
One glorious autumn day,
Margaret Smith was waiting tables;
In her usual charming way.
One couldn't help but notice
As she served each hungry guest;
The little things that mean so much,
So thoughtful of the rest.
Small Leo seated by my side
Returned a smile once or twice,
And expressed what I was thinking
When he whispered, "Ain't she nice?"

--Vera H. Warner

The small boy was Leo Middendorf (son of Ben and Viola Middendorf). Members and friends will remember Margaret (Mrs. D.D. Smith) when she waited tables at the annual Presbyterian Church suppers.

(Published in the North Dakota PRAIRIE WINGS magazine, November, 1937.

THE BOX FROM HOME

Dear Son: I must take time to say
Your box of eats is on the way!
I sent a batch of fudge as well
And a glass of homemade apple jell.
I am giving you an extra thrill
By folding in a dollar bill.
Now you may get that checkered tie
And I'll send another by and by.
(You need not mention when you write
You know your Dad is pretty tight).

Last night when we sat down to eat
He said some things that got him beat.
He told us when he was a lad
He never begged from his old Dad.
He always had some work to do
To earn an extra cent or two.
Now he remembers in his teens
When money jingled in his jeans.
But now-a-days the college lad
Is sending "dunners" to his Dad.

Please study hard and when you're through
He'll see you're made of good stuff, too.
Just take your time when climbing stairs
And don't forget to say your prayers.
Goose-oil-- I think is really best
To break up the cold in your chest.
I hope your pals enjoy the spread,
(Be sure and tell me what they said.)
I'm waiting dinner...here they come.
Love and best wishes from your...Mom.

---Vera H. Warner



Laura (Warner) Ellingson.

Laura Warner attended Mankato Commercial College and returned to Park River to work at the Walsh County Agriculture and Training School for fifteen years. During most of those years she worked for E.J. Taintor, superintendent, as well as County Agent. In 1945 she resigned and married Glenn I. Ellingson who was a civil engineer for the U.S. Corps of Engineers. Glenn had been stationed in Park River while work was being done on Homme Dam. They moved to St. Paul, Minnesota to make their home. Laura and Glenn have two children. Ted is an auditor of credit unions for the state of Minnesota. He is married to Jane Mershon. They have one son and one daughter.

Linda Ellingson is a nurse and is married to Dr. Rolf Paulson, an internist at the United Hospital in St. Paul. They have one son

and one daughter.

Gertina Warner, born December 19, 1870, had true Norwegian talent for hand work. She made beautiful quilts, and embroidery work as well as woven wagon-wheel rugs. Her velvet log cabin quilt won first prize at the Minto fair in 1904. Gertina demonstrated spinning at the Fiftieth Anniversary Celebration for the founding of Walsh County and displayed a white shawl she had knit from wool she clipped from the sheep, carded and spun. She worked for Sam Ebbson at the Tailor Shop for many years. She died Sept. 25, 1955.

DR. FRANK E. WEED



Dr. and Mrs. Frank E. Weed

Dr. Frank E. Weed, a native of Conway and a graduate of the University of Minnesota Medical School in 1912, came to Park River in 1915 with his wife, the former Hortense Spain. Hortense had been teaching in Lankin, N.D. and it was in Lankin that Dr. Weed began his practice of medicine. Dr. and Mrs. Weed had a family of girls, Anna Fay, Irene, Patricia and Frances.

Dr. Weed's mother, Anna Jennie Bina, who had come to this country from Bohemia at the age of 12, married Dar Weed in Grand Forks in 1887. They spent the largest part of their married life in Conway where Mrs. Weed operated a boarding house and millinery shop. Dr. Weed was a member of the North Dakota Medical Association, the American Medical Association, a fellow in the International College of Surgeons and member of the State Board of Medical Examiners. His interest and activities in Park River were varied and extensive, including membership on the school board, local and state offices in the American Legion, Shriners, Toastmasters, etc. The Weed Clinic was established in 1944. The community building a hospital for his use was his biggest thrill in life and the realization of his only dream. St. Ansgar's Hospital opened in 1952, just two years before his death in March of 1954, at the age of 65.

Dr. and Mrs. Weed were both active in many community groups and charter members of the American Legion Post No. 147 and American Legion Auxiliary. Mrs. Weed served as the first president of the Auxiliary. Mrs. Weed died in 1979.

Dr. and Mrs. Weed had four daughters:

Anna Fay married Earl G. Fritz. They lived in Waterville, Minn. They have one daughter, Catherine. Catherine is married

to Larry Hohnstadt. She has two sons, Cedric and Sean and one daughter, Sandra Fay and they live in Cleveland, Minn.

Marjorie Irene Weed married John Neiva de Figueiredo. They live in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Irene had one son, John married to Denise Moretto and they live in Flouanapolis, Brazil.

Patricia Marie Weed married Roy B. Harvey. They live in Minneapolis, Minn. They have three sons, Roy N. married to Nancy Hall and they have one son, Bayne. Donald and Frank and his wife Sabrina Wong, all live in Minneapolis. Their daughter, Marjorie Ann is married to Jeff Butelson and they have two sons, Arthur James and Joshua.

Frances Weed married Olaf Aasand. They have five sons and one daughter. Frank is married to Victoria LaBonte and they have three children, Robert, Peter and Jennifer. John is married to Debbie Houska and they have one daughter, Nicole. James is married to Nancy Gorder and they live in Grafton, also. Mary Helen and her husband, Michael Pederson have one son, Matthew and live in Colstrip, Montana. Charles lives in Fargo. Kin and his wife, Joanne Erlandson are in Anchorage, Alaska.

BLANCHARD L.(SONNY) WELCH

Blanchard Leroy (Sonny) Welch was born September 9, 1938 in Rugby, N.D. He was the youngest of 10 children of his parents, Blanchard and Myrtle Welch. He attended schools in Rugby, Minot and Cando, N.D., from where he graduated from high school and attended Mayville State College for a time. He then left school and decided to follow in his father's and two brother's footsteps and become a baker.

Kaaren Kay Hammer, daughter of Ralph and Myrtle Hammer of Cooperstown, N.D., was born July 8, 1938. She has one sister, Barbara. Kaaren attended schools in Cooperstown and Fargo, N.D. and in 1948 moved to Cando, N.D. where she attended and graduated from high school. She then attended Minot State college where she received her Standard Teaching Certificate. On August 17, 1958, Sonny and Kaaren Welch were married at Cando Lutheran Church where both had been confirmed. They made their home in Bisbee, N.D. where Kaaren taught school. Sonny commuted to his father's bakery in Cando. The next year, they moved to Cando where Sonny continued in the bakery and Kaaren taught first grade. While living there, four of their children were born, Rock in 1959, Tobin in 1961, Mary Jo in 1964 and Wes in 1966.

In June, 1969, the family moved to Park River where they had purchased Ernie's Bakery on Briggs Avenue, from Ernest and Mildred Torfin. They named the business Welch Bakery. They purchased their home at 616 Code Avenue from Bert and Beulah Hardy. In June, 1970, their daughter, Bobbi Jo, was born.

Presently, Rock is attending N.A.U. in Flagstaff, Arizona, after serving four years in the U.S. Navy. Tobin, after graduating from Park River High School, worked two years in Petersburg, Alaska and now has joined his father in the bakery. He is married to the former Cheryl Weisz, daughter of Earl and Marcella Weisz also of Park River. She attended UND and the University of Oregon and is now employed at the State School in Grafton.

Mary Jo attended Hairdesigner's Academy in Grand Forks and now works for D&H Stylists in Minot, ND. She is married to Kevin Skavhaug, son of Doris Skavhaug of Park River and Elden Skavhaug of rural Adams. He is a senior at Minot State College.

Wes is a senior at Park River High School and Bobbi Jo is an 8th grader in Park River Junior High. The family are members of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church of Park River.

JOHN AND ANNA WELLEK



John Wellek



Mrs. John (Anna) Wellek.

John Wellek was born in 1876 to James Wellek and Kathryn (Kostohris) Wellek. His family consisted of sisters, Anna (Mrs. John F. Schufletowski); Christina (Mrs. Karel Novak, Sr.); Josephine (Mrs. Joe Machart); Mary (Mrs. Jack Ripple).

John Wellek was united in marriage on June 29, 1899 to Anna Hodny, daughter of Joseph and Katherine (Soukup) Hodny. She was born December 19, 1879. Her brothers were: Matt Hodny (married to Antonie Kostohris), Joseph Hodny (married Anna Sedivy); John Hodny (single); and her sisters were: Mary (Mrs. Frank Kadlec); Katherine (married John T. Jelinek); Barbara (married Frank Votava). Several Hodny children died in infancy.

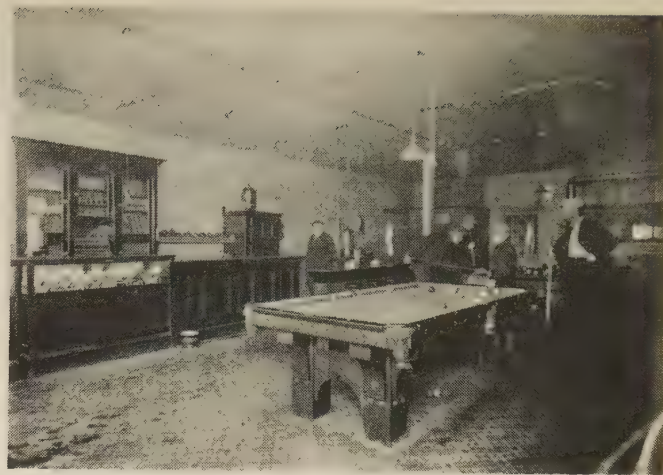
John was a carpenter and Anna was a seamstress. They owned many prominent buildings in Park River on main street in their days. They also owned farm land in Lankin, Pisek and Park River areas. John also held and served in different offices in the city of Park River.

Anna was active in the community but the church took priority. She took care of the altars in St. Mary's Catholic Church and kept the linens clean. She raised a vegetable and flower garden thus providing flowers for the altars. Her house plants adorned the altars the rest of the time. She was an active member of various societies and served as secretary-treasurer of the society of Our Lady of Perpetual Help. Anna devoted much time to the upkeep, hiring competent help and overseeing work done at Calvary Cemetery.

John and Anna had no children. John died July 12, 1931 and Anna died February 12, 1958; both are buried in the Calvary Cemetery.

ENOK WICK

Enok (Orstavik) Wick was born in Orstavik, Norway and came to America before the year 1900. He settled first in the Mayville area and later came to Park River. He, together with several other adventuresome young men homesteaded in McKenzie County, but after proving up his claim, he decided that was not where he wanted to live, so traded off his quarter of land for one of the first automobiles in the Park River area. Enok was so impressed by Park River and the surrounding country, he finally persuaded his brother Knut (who was living in Minneapolis) to bring his family and come here to make their home. Enok owned and operated one of the first Recreation Parlors in Park River until the time of his death in 1915. His business was located at the present site of the Post Office in Park River.



Recreation Parlor of Enok Wick

KNUT WICK FAMILY



Knut N. Wick



Mrs. Knut (Karoline) Wick

Knut N. Wick was born in Orstavik, Norway, and came to America after completing his education and lived in Minneapolis, where he practiced his profession as a structural engineer, working for the American Bridge Shop. His wife, the former Karoline Hildenes, who was from Nordfjordeid, Norway, came to Minneapolis to visit a sister who was living there. The couple met and married in Minneapolis and lived there for 11 years before moving to Park River in the early 1900's. They raised a family of nine children. Mrs. Wick died in 1953 and Mr. Wick passed away in 1964 at the age of 92. During World War I he worked in the Philadelphia Shipyards as a foreman- testing steel that was used in the building of Navy Destroyers. After the war he owned and operated his own shop in Park River. Mr. Wick was a fine musician and played several instruments, and sang in the church choir and choral groups until late in life. He was honored by the firemen with a plaque and Fifty-Year Pin when he attained his fifty-year membership in that organization. Mr. Wick served as Fire Chief for several terms. He was a member of the Odd Fellows Lodge and also the A.O.U.W. Lodge. Mrs. Wick was also very musical- and was active in the Ladies Aid, the Flower Mission and in Sunday School. Both Mr. and Mrs. Wick were active members of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church.

CLARENCE WICK, the oldest child, was educated in the banking field, and worked in banks in Nashua, Opheim, and Glasgow, Montana. He was a veteran of World War I, and was attending Officers Training School at the close of the war. He married Theodora Hansen from New Auburn, Wisconsin and they had a family of five children. Mrs. Wick was an English and Music Instructor at Opheim, where the couple met.

William Quentin, their oldest son, is a University professor and administrator and Sea Grant Director at Oregon State University.

Carol Wick, their oldest daughter, is married to Don Pederson, a Banking Executive, and they live in Visalia, California.

Ruth Wick, married Rev. Jack Stegeman. Ruth is a Social worker for Los Angeles County and lives in Monrovia, California.

Richard Wick of Torrance, California, holds a Masters Degree in Business Science and is a Computer Expert and Programmer.

Daniel Wick is a graduate of West Point. He is an Aerospace Engineer and Computer Expert, and also a Company Executive.

BORGHILD WICK the oldest daughter was a dental assistant to Dr. R.J. Richardson and she also worked in Walstroms Department Store. She married Simon Ellefson, manager of the Robertson Lumber Yard in Lankin, N.D. in 1924, and they lived in Lankin until her death in 1925.

LILLIAN WICK was a graduate of Mayville State Teachers College and taught in schools in Pisek, Ryder, Maddock and Park River, before her marriage to Dr. O.E. Heskin from Portland, N.D. Dr. Heskin taught at the University of Minnesota and the University of Florida before joining the United States State Department. The Heskins lived in six foreign countries where Dr. Heskin served in various positions: namely, As Consul-American Consulate General in Shanghai, China; Attache- U.S. Embassy in Oslo, Norway; in various positions with the American Embassies in Karachi, Pakistan; Cairo, Egypt; Tripoli, Libya; and Amman, Jordan. Dr. Heskin also served in government positions in Washington, D.C. He is a veteran of World War I and World War II. The Heskins now make their home in Gainesville, Florida.

JOSEPHINE WICK was a teacher and graduate of Mayville State Teachers College, where she also taught a class in violin. She taught schools in rural Adams, and in the towns of Kloten and Noonan. She married Orville Tryhus from Mayville, N.D. Orville was also a teacher and later owned and operated businesses in Noonan and Crosby, and had extensive farming interests in that area. They made their home in Crosby. Orville served as Mayor of Crosby for 20 years. He died in 1972. Josephine now makes her home in Park River.

ROSE WICK was also a teacher and taught in several schools in the Park River and Fairdale areas. She married Kenneth Eaton, a former Park River man, who was then a Commercial Artist for the Des Moines Register and Tribune. Kenneth originated the feature "IOWA ODDITIES" for the paper. They had two sons, Keith, who became vice president of a bank in Des Moines, Iowa and Ronald, who is associated with the Boise Idaho Lumber Company and lives in San Diego, Calif. Kenneth died in 1941. Rose is remarried and has a daughter, Roselynn, and is now living in Columbia, Missouri.

THELMA WICK graduated from the Park River schools and was active in both Alumni Associations. She is active in the Lutheran Church and has served as Secretary; is a past president of the Luther League, Lutheran Daughters of the Reformation; was Superintendent of the Sunday School, and was a choir member and Sunday School teacher for many years. She is a member of the Naomi Circle and ALCW. She was general chairman for the 75th Jubilee Celebration; co-chairman for the Sesquicentennial



Thelma Wick

and chairman for the "Burning of the Mortgage" celebration. She is an active member of the American Legion Auxiliary, having been President, vice president, secretary and chaplain; elected District 11 vice president; and was Personal Page to the Department President; and Page from District Two at several state conventions.

She is a member of the Harmony Homemakers Club, secretary of the Scandinavian Heritage Club; Vice-president of St. Ansgar's Hospital Auxiliary; charter member of the Walsh County Historical Society; member of Gyda Varden No. 21 Sons of Norway Lodge of Grand Forks, it's Drill Team and Chorus; member of the Nordfjord Lag of America, was a charter member and one of the organizers of the Fortnightly Club; a charter member of the Grafton Business and Professional Womens Club in which organization she served as vice president, secretary and co-chairman for the State Convention.

She was appointed by the County Commissioners to the Walsh County Senior Citizens Council, serving as secretary for six years. She helped organize the Happy Hours Senior Citizens Club in Park River.

She worked at Hultstrand Studio for many years and was largely instrumental in preparing the Fred Hultstrand Collection entitled: "HISTORY IN PICTURES" having hand colored in oils over 400 pictures in the collection. Her hobbies are traveling, music and writing poems and song lyrics. She has traveled extensively both in the United States and abroad. Music is an important part of her life-having played in the City Band, sung in choirs, quartettes and trios for many years. She is presently living in Park River and continues to be active in the community.

She was a member of "The Steering Committee" arranging the Celebration of Park Rivers Centennial in 1984. She also did a great deal of work on the Centennial Book, compiling and rewriting the History Of Park River on information gathered from many sources.

SYLVIA WICK graduated from Park River High School and trained to be a teacher. A confirmed member of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church- she has served as pianist, organist and choir Education; was the first woman to be elected to the Board of Deacons; Chairman for the Confirmands reunions (60th and 75th(Jubilees), co-chairman of the Sesquicentennial; member of the ALCW and Circle; Sunday School teacher; president of LDR; sang in choral groups, trios and quartettes.

In other activities she is a charter member of Fortnightly Study Club; Charter member and musician of the Grafton Business and Professional Women's Club; American Legion Auxiliary (President 3 times) and pianist for many years.



Sylvia A. Wick

She served as director of the Walsh County Historical Society and as a member of the bicentennial Heritage Commission. She is a member of the St. Ansgar's Hospital Auxiliary; of Harmony Homemakers Club; member of the Sons of Norway Lodge at Grand Forks where she was a member of the Drill Team; the choir; and pianist for one term. She is a member of the Scandinavian Heritage Society of Walsh County; and of the Nordfjord Lag of America.

Her chief hobby is music, and she has written and directed musical programs given in Crookston, Grand Forks and locally. She served as accompanist for many vocal and instrumental soloists.

She worked at Hultstrand Studio for many years, and was a valued assistant in researching and preparing "The Fred Hultstrand Collection "History in Pictures".

Interested in traveling, she has made several extensive tours through Europe and the U.S.A.

She continues to make her home in Park River, and is active in community affairs. She has given the Centennial Book some valuable assistance as a member of the important Centennial Book Committee.

Thelma and Sylvia have been honored for their work in the "Fred Hultstrand Collection and Exhibitions" by features written about their work, in the North Dakota "Plainswoman" magazine (concerning arts and artists); and in local and area newspapers; and at receptions honoring photographers and members of the Historical Societies.

VICTORIA MARCELLA WICK graduated from the Park River schools and the Commercial College in Des Moines, Iowa. She was currently employed as Executive Secretary to the Foods Editor for the well-known publication "BETTER HOMES AND GARDENS". She married Edwin Reese Rogers of Des Moines and the couple have three children, Marilyn, Mrs. E. Brickman; Edwin Reese Rogers, Jr. and Pamela, Mrs. Dennis Schwabe. The Rogers family live in Des Moines, Iowa.

KATHRYN WICK (Billee) graduated from the Park River schools and worked at Hultstrand Studio for several years. She married John Olsen, a Marketing Executive and they lived in Brooklyn, New York, for a number of years before being transferred to California. Kathryn was Business Administrator and coordinator for Lutheran Social Services, which is comprised of 52 churches in the Sacramento and surrounding area for eighteen years.

The Olsens have one daughter, Sandra Kay, who is a teacher. She is married to George Whittlesey Ely, Jr., an insurance

broker, and they live in Davis, California. The Olsens live in Citrus Heights, California.

GEORGE M. WIDME



George and Ida Widme.

George M. Widme and family moved to Park River from Mahanomen, Minn., on July 1, 1944 to take over as superintendent of Park River Water and Light Department. At that time, electrical power for the city was furnished completely by several engines at local power house. Throughout the years, the city power lines were rebuilt. George, along with the City crew made many improvements and changes to the city. George served the city of Park River during the administration of mayors Fred Hultstrand, M.O. Johnson, Duncan Meagher and Percy Walstad.

George worked for the city for 26 years, until his retirement in December of 1970. In 1951, George was asked by the Corps of Engineers to record the water levels at Homme Dam and report readings. He continued to do this until 1975.

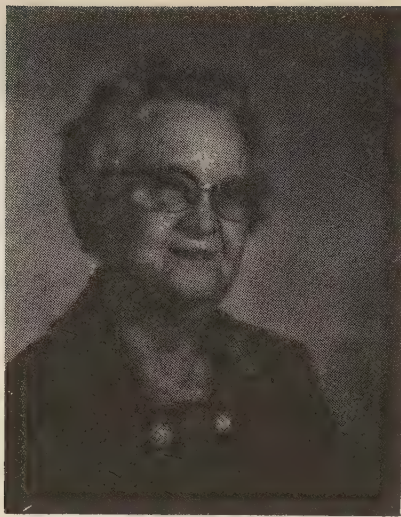
George Widme and Ida Amundson of Portland, N.D. were married in 1931. Ida worked as a clerk at the local Johnson Store for twelve years.

The Widme's have one daughter, Marjorie, born in 1934. Marjorie is married to Ronald Vavrosky and they live in Park River. Ron and Marjorie have four children, Kathy, 21, works as a beautician in Grand Forks; Karen, 24, is an LPN at University Hospital in Minneapolis and also attends the University of Minnesota; Donald, 25, is a graduate of the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks and is employed at the School for the Deaf in Devils Lake; Douglas, 27, graduated from a Bible College in Canada and is married to Avril Botha. They are now living in Taiwan, Republic of China, working as missionaries.

George Widme died June 7, 1982 after a long illness. Ida Widme continues to make her home in Park River.

GERTRUDE NESTE WILSON

Gertrude Neste was the oldest daughter of Ole and Inga Neste. She was born in Park River on November 11, 1895 and graduated from Park River High School in 1915. She then attended Valley City Normal for one year. Her first teaching position was at Sherbrooke, N.D. where she taught the second grade for one school term. She taught second grade for 7 more years, two of those years at the Park River Elementary School. Her final two years of teaching were at Blue Island, IL., where she met her



Gertrude Neste Wilson.

future husband, James K. Wilson. He was an electrical engineer for the State Bank of Chicago. They were married in 1924. Jim starred in many Blue Island performances as 'Black Face Minstrel'. He passed away in 1934. Gertrude returned to Park River and opened a Fashion Shop in the Windsor Hotel, which she operated for 5 years, then moved to Wheatland, WY., where she operated a dress shop for many years. At Wheatland, she was president of the Business and Professional Women's Association. She later moved to Santa Monica, CA., where she was in charge of the sweater department at Hensheys Department Store, where she also held a position as one of three models for the store.

She returned to Park River because of the serious illness of her mother. After her mother's death in 1958, she and her sister Esther continued to operate the Windsor Hotel. Gertrude has been active in the American Legion Auxiliary, serving as President in 1937, St. Ansgar's Hospital Auxiliary and Senior Citizens. Since retiring, she has made her home in Park River.

WILLIAM ALBERT YOUNG

William Albert Young was born at Burr Oak, Wisconsin, October 14, 1882. He left Wisconsin in 1902 with a group of settlers for Beach, N.D., where he started the first newspaper, The Golden Valley Chronicle. In 1908 he bought the Park River



Left to Right: Wanda, Elva, Mabel C. and William A. Seated in Front: Mabel, Alice.

Republican. He lived in Park River until 1934 when he bought the Red River Valley Leader at Drayton, N.D.

William A. Young and Mabel Claire Cameron, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen A. Cameron, were married at the J.M. Brett home in Park River on February 10, 1909. Miss Ida Finneseth and Lloyd W. Cameron, a brother of Mrs. Young, were their attendants. They were married by Mrs. Young's uncle, The Rev. H.P. Cooper. They had three girls, Wanda Ruth (Andrasen), Torrance, Ca; Elva Mae (Halcrow), Drayton, N.D.; and Mabel Alice (Petterson), Sioux Falls, S.D., all born and raised in Park River.

Mr. Young was a life-long member of the Methodist Church, a charter member of the Masonic Sunset Lodge at Beach, affiliated with Golden Valley Masonic Lodge at Park River and then the Fidelity Lodge of Drayton. He was a member of the Royal Arch Masons of Grafton, and the Odd Fellows Lodge.

Mr. Young was president of the Clark Eaton Band in Park River for many years and played an E flat bass. He was also good on the alto horn and the snare drum. One of his hobbies was raising purebred White Rock chickens.

In the early years when he traveled to Fordville and Lankin, he owned a one-cylinder Rambler car. He would tell how hard it was to crank it and how it had no power so he would have to lift it over muddy portions of roads and push it up a hill.

Before Mabel Young was married she worked as bookkeeper in Fred Walstrom's store and too, as a telephone operator for the Park River Telephone Co.



Trivia

1900: The "Blind Piggers" of Walsh County are having most scary time of it and the Sheriff is busier than a horse's appendage in fly time. Complaints have been filed against 19 of the offenders and warrants issued for their arrest and placed in the hands of the Sheriff for service.

1901: Police are on the lookout for "scorchers." For some time past there has been a noticeable carelessness on the part of bicycle riders, especially the young boys who seem to have an idea that it is smart to see how fast they can ride through the main thoroughfare of the city. During the past two or three days, several accidents have narrowly been averted.

Park River Homes At The Turn Of The Century

1900

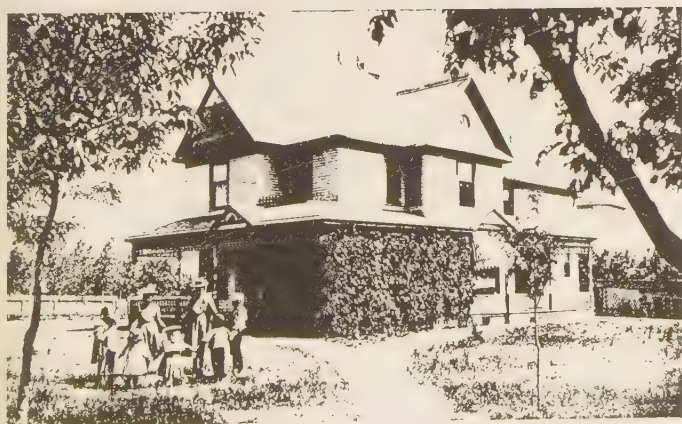


Residence of Mr. John Wadge

1984



Corner of Code and Sixth



Residence of W.F. Honey.



Residence of Dr. L.S. Sturlaugson.



Residence of J.P. Birder



Drawing Room of J.P. Birder's Residence.



Reception Hall of J.P. Birder's Residence.



Residence of Agnes Dougherty Henderson.



Residence of W.H. Warner



Tallackson Apartments



Residence of Geo. E. Towle.



Steve Currie Home



Residence of Karl J. Farup (replaced with a new home owned by Ray Ellingson).



Residence of Sander Soll (Replaced by Catholic Church).

Feb. 14, 1918

Feb. 23
To
Mar. 2

Special

Feb. 23
To
Mar. 2

BARGAIN SALE

AT

The VARIETY STORE

Beginning Saturday, Feb. 23 and continuing through Short Course Week

BELOW WE LIST A FEW ITEMS

3 Cans Dutch Cleanser.....	25c
4 Boxes Matches (large size box).....	25c
6 Dozen Clothes Pins.....	10c
4 Dozen Pearl Buttons (best size, fish eyes).....	25c
12x17 Dripping Pans.....	19c
75c Bath Towels.....	63c
50c Bath Towels.....	39c
8 inch Embroidery, per yard.....	9c
10 inch Embroidery, per yard.....	11c
12 inch Embroidery, per yard.....	14c

Extremely low prices on Fancy Dishes. Don't fail to see these and many other good bargains offered. Make our store your stopping place when you have a few minutes to wait. You are always welcome.

C. F. TAYLOR



Residence of I. Davis



Home of Dr. E. Infeld



Residence of George N. Petty, Contractor.



Louis Evenson home, Briggs Ave. N.



Residence of C.W. Honey.



**Marge Engbretson Home
127 Park Ave. So.**



Residence of W.J. Edwards, Contractor and Builder.



Home of Taffy Maresh
109 6th St. E.



Residence of O.E. Hasle.



Gilman Clemens home, 117 Code Ave. So.



Residence of A.G. Park (replaced by David Ford home).

1935

BIG OLE SHOW CO.

presents

"The Saw Dust Trail"

with Mr. and Mrs. Loranger and Lila Stover
leading an all-star cast
CITY HALL, PARK RIVER

Friday, April 5

Starting at 8 o'clock
Sponsored by the Odd Fellows Lodge



Residence of Geo. K. McEwan (corner of Fifth Street and Harris Avenue). Now an apartment house).



David Johnson home, 318 Harris Avenue.



Residence of Dr. Haldorsson



Residence of Alderman John Wyllie (replaced by home of Melvin Olson, Briggs Avenue South).

Special Sale
SILK DRESSES

Prints and plain colors
All sizes

\$4.98

Saturday, March 30

The **FASHION SHOP**



Residence of Dr. Douglas. Later the home of Governor Allin.



Home of Mrs. Ruby Stromli



Residence of S.F. Wilson.



Home of Mrs. Gunder Momerak, Briggs Avenue.



Sept. 18, 1914



Residence of Ivar Overbye (replaced by home of Victor Johnson).

Liberty Lumber Co.

FIR AND PINE LUMBER

A FULL LINE OF BUILDING MATERIAL

C O A L

The Best there is, including SCRANTON

FRANK E. FAY, Agent



Residence of H.A. Libby



Ella Hanson Home
208 5th St. W.



Residence of Joseph Thompson.



Home of Joe Dub, Sr.
102 7th St. E.



Residence of S.B. Warner (replaced by home of Vic Sturlaugson).

Feb. 14, 1918

Dr. W.J. Plunkett
DENTIST

Office over Walstrom's store
Phone No. 1

Park River - North Dakota

Dr. M. Hansen
Physician and Surgeon

Office over Anderson's Drug Store
Telephone No. 4, Day or Night

Park River - North Dakota



Residence of J. Morley Wyard



**Henry Green Home
Briggs Ave. So.**



Residence of George Shepherd.



**Gustafson Home
Briggs Ave.**



Residence of Mr. Hugh Loughead



Home of Mrs. Alma Loughead



Residence of Thos. Wadge.



Ben Middendorf Home, 133 Wadge Ave. So.



T.T. Thompson Home
416 Code Ave. So.
Now a duplex apartment building

Feb. 14, 1918

Dr. R. G. Richardson,
DENTIST

Office in Union Block over the
O. J. Thorson's store.

Phone 62.

Park River, N. D.

F. E. WEED, M. D.

(Successor to Dr. Church)

Physician and Surgeon

Office hours: 11 to 12 a. m.; 3 to 5 p.m.

Phone 65.

Park River, N. D.



103 Briggs Ave. N. Built sometime between 1898-1900 by Karl J. Farup, an early local banker. It was purchased by Gustav Brandt in 1910, who operated a mens' clothing store. In 1938 it was purchased by Olaf and Mabel Brandt, and is presently their home.



O.P. Olson family home--1910-1972. (Now owned by Marvin Agotness).



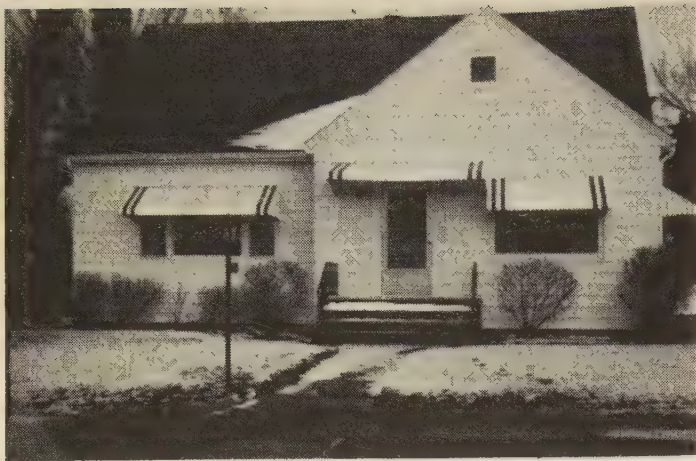
Residence of C. Finneseth - about 1889



Residence of C. Finneseth - years later



Now owned by Dr. Phyllis Cowger



Duncan Meagher Home, 114 Code Avenue South.

Mayor from 1946-1949



Melvin O. Johnson Home, 411 Harris Avenue South.

Mayor from 1950-1962



Percy Walstad Home, 131 Park Avenue South.

Present Mayor of Park River



News Items:

.. October 12, 1906 - Cheap Light and Fuel. Waste products of the farm to be used in the manufacture of ethyl alcohol. Agriculture Secretary Wilson is confident of the use of refuse and agriculture waste products. One of the draw-backs of development is the cost of transportation and energy.

.. April 1, 1887 - Park River Gazette.

.. It is now said that the world will not come to an end until 3000 A.D. This leaves us 1113 years in which to study how Park River is to get convenient postoffice accommodations. The time is short, but by a little hustling we think the work can be done.

May 31, 1934

DeLUXE BEAUTY SHOP
SMART WOMEN KEEP WELL GROOMED
 For Better Beauty Service Phone 137
 for Appointment
 Ella Hanson — Operators — Helen Meier

FAIL'S CAFE
 Food Cooked Just the Way You Want It
 Fountain in Connection
 When thirsty drop in for a nice cold glass of beer

**SEND YOUR FILMS
 FOR PRINTING AND
 DEVELOPING TO—**

**HULTSTRAND
 STUDIO**
 PARK RIVER, N.D.

NEW FLOUR ON LOCAL MARKET

MACHINERY HUMMING IN NEW
FLOUR MILL. PRODUCT IN
CONSTANT DEMAND

A new brand of flour made its appearance on the local market last week. It is the product of the Community Flour and Grain company's mill and is known as "Flavo Flour," which is the brand adopted by the mill for that product.

The Community Flour and grain company's aim is to supply the public with wholesome flour of high grade, milled from hard wheat. They feel gratified at the demand already shown for "Flavo" flour and the prospects are that the mill will be kept busy to enable them to fill all orders. Other products of the mill are whole wheat and graham flour, and byproducts, bran and shorts.

The milling machinery was installed during the early winter, and the company has been awaiting the arrival of an expert miller to set the machinery in motion. Mr. Scheldiger, who is employed by the manufacturers of the midget mills, came up last week. He found everything in readiness and soon had the wheels of the new industry turning. Everything is now in a fine working order and the new flour is being turned out to the capacity of the mill.

The new industry is a splendid thing for Park River and for the surrounding community. It was established to meet an existing want and will undoubtedly receive the patronage which such an undertaking merits.

The company was organized last year with S. Currie as president, James Pengilly as vice president and

Alex M. Ford as secretary and manager. The company purchased the Imperial elevator and the erection of the mill was begun last summer on a site just across the road from it. The structure was completed in the early fall, but owing to delays in the receipt of the machinery, it was not opened as early as planned.

In the fall the Pengilly feed mill was removed and installed in the elevator, and this enables the Company to fill orders for all kinds of feed, as well as flour.

The elevator is also conducted as under former ownership and grain of all kinds is bought, sold and shipped.

With the opening of the mill the new industry is quite a busy center in the south end of town.

September 18, 1914

Harry Newlog, who has been the guest of Cecil Rinder during the summer, left on Monday for Notre Dame, Ind., to join his mother and will then proceed to Ft. Worth, Texas, his home. During his stay here he played ball with the local club and his superb work on the team made him one of its most popular members. He has made a host of friends during his stay and their best wishes follow him.

The Crookston College has been obliged to turn down a large number of splendid positions in banks, wholesale houses, railroad offices, etc., for lack of graduates. Do you know you could have had one of these if you had been prepared. They also give a course in gas tractor engineering. You can get board and room in Crookston from \$3 to \$3.50 per week. Write to J. C. Sathre for catalog. if

Students Want Employment.

A number of students, both boys and girls, desire employment to earn part of their school expenses. Persons who can furnish employment are requested to notify Principal W. A. Broyles of the Agricultural school. if

MENU

NOW SERVING FOOD WHERE PRICES APPEAR

FRUITS, ETC

Orange Juice	10¢	Tomato Juice	10¢
Grapefruit Juice	10¢	Fruit Salad	15¢
Baked Apple		Half Grapefruit	15¢

TOAST AND CEREALS

Dry or Buttered Toast	10¢	Oatmeal, Cream	15¢
Milk Toast	20¢	Oatmeal, Milk	10¢
French Toast	20¢	Grape Nuts	10¢
Cakes and Coffee	20¢	Corn Flakes	10¢
Doughnuts	35¢	Bran	10¢

EGGS AND OMLETS

Ham and Eggs	50¢	Bacon and Eggs	50¢
Fried Eggs	10¢	Poached Eggs	10¢
Boiled Eggs	20¢	Poached Eggs on Toast	20¢
Plain Omelet	20¢	Ham Omelet	25¢
Cheese Omelet	25¢	Onion Omelet	25¢

STEAKS AND CHOPS

T-Bone Steak	65¢	Small Steak	50¢
Minute Steak	65¢	Hamburger Steak	45¢
Plain Steak	50¢	Pork Chops	45¢

POTATOES, VEGETABLES

American Fried	05¢	Stewed Corn	05¢
Hashed Brown	15¢	Baked Beans	10¢
French Fried	15¢	Stewed Tomatoes	10¢

MENU

SANDWICHES

Ham	10¢	Fried Ham	15¢
Hamburger	10¢	Ham and Egg	15¢
Cheese	10¢	Cheese and Egg	15¢
Egg	10¢	Denver on Toast	25¢
Roast Beef	15¢	Sardine	10¢
Pork	15¢	Bacon and Egg	15¢

OYSTERS IN SEASON

Half Doz. Stewed		Half Doz. Fried	
Dozen Stewed		Half Dozen Raw	

DRINKS

Coffee	05¢	Cocoa	10¢
Tea Pot	10¢	Postum	10¢
Milk	05¢	Hot Milk	05¢

DESSERT

Apple Pie	10¢		
Stewed Prunes	10¢		
Ice Cream with Flavoring	15¢	Cake	10¢

A Bit Of Nostalgia

Do you remember when:

An ad in the paper for "help wanted" read: Lady to clerk in store. Must be able to speak Norwegian?

The help wanted ad was for a girl to work for her board and room? That perhaps meant she had to help the lady of the house take care of the family of up to eight children and assist with serving four to six course dinners?

A woman did not expose any part of her body. Swim suits were full garments. Sun dresses and shorts were taboo?

The obituary notices described the last breath of the deceased?

Included in the obituary notice were not only the survivors, but the amount of insurance the deceased carried?

Turning out the light meant turning the wick of the kerosene lamp into the burner to extinguish the flame. This entailed cleaning the chimney on a regular basis. Then came the 'mantle lamps' and the 'gas lamps' prior to electricity?

Children wore black stockings - perhaps brown at times?

An apron or pinafore was a necessity for the lady of the house. The apron was very practical. It was used as a weapon to shoo flies or to gather eggs, as well as keeping the dress clean?

The person abandoned his team of horses for a horseless carriage created a problem. The driver would holler "whoa" to stop the vehicle?

Baby boys wore dresses through their whole infancy?

Families would go visiting on Sunday afternoon?

When company came the children were served the meal after the adults had eaten. At bed time the children relinquished their claim to the beds and slept on the floor?

The plumbing was outdoors? How interesting the catalogs were to study!

The home remedies for all ailments included Dr. Peter Fahrney's Kuriko, Ole-Oid Liniment, and then the good old carbolic salve?

Spring house cleaning included washing the Way-sagless bed spring with kerosene - a bed bug precaution?

Kalsomine was used to paint the walls?

A trip to the dentist was quite unpleasant when the foot pedal was the power to operate the drill?

The townspeople walked! This was evidenced by the well-worn foot paths in the City Park.

When fall was here the hoboes were lined up along the south side of Landsborough's Store?

The hoboes had a camp down along the river by the Power House?

The soda fountain at Anderson's Drug Store...that beautiful marble top?

When the high school graduates went away to school in the fall a trunk was packed. They did not get home again until the Christmas holidays?

When a new barn was built on a farm its dedication was a barn dance?

Cars were made with running boards, side curtains, the sporty cars were coupes with a rumble seat. \$1.00 would buy about six gallons of gas?

A 'fish peddler' from Minnesota would make his weekly visits Thursday evening or Friday morning?

Women did not shampoo their hair every week? Flax seed was boiled and that was used as wave set for the home operator. A popular hair-do at the beauty shop was a marcel. Then came the permanents! A 'spiral' for a loose wave and the 'croquinole' for a tight curl.

Reading the comic strip "Ola and Per" in the Decorah Posten (Norwegian) and "The Katzenjammer Twins", "Hairbreadth Harry", "Maggie and Jigs", "Winnie Winkle" in the daily paper?

A manicure was nail polish applied carefully to shape a 'moon' at the base of the fingernail. A pencil of nail white was used under the tip of the nail...all this followed the usual practice of buffing.

Almost every woman had a dresser set (comb, brush, nail file, shoe hook, catch for hair, mirror) of ivory, usually monogrammed?

Women had about three dresses, one for Sunday-Go-To-Meetin' one for afternoons, and one for every day? One pair of shoes, black or brown, was worn even if it did not match the garment. Same with stockings, usually cotton, then rayon, then silk. Nylon didn't come into being until the late 30's?

Remember when:

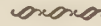
The young girls in the early 'Twenties' were called "Flappers"?



After the big park was opened it was a challenge to be able to drive your car up the steep hills without having the vehicle stop half-way up and necessitate backing up and making another attempt to get to the top?



The piano players at the Lyric did a tremendous performance in playing selections that matched the mood of the picture flashed on the screen?



Transistor radios were only a fantasy as depicted in the comic strip, "Dick Tracy" and space travel was the wild dream of the creator of the strip "Flash Gordon"?



Swimming in the muddy river at the bridge by the Power House and then the swimming hole was moved to the CCC dam site on the river on the west side of the big park?



Knickers were the popular garb for golf by the men?



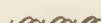
"Radio Parties" were the form of entertainment in the early twenties. Even static received in the head sets caused much excitement!?



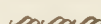
The lively Saturday nights in Park River? Stores were open until there were no more customers. Farmers would come to town in the afternoon to get their car parked in a good spot to 'watch the people'.



Remember the Vitaphone? The News Reels that preceded the movie?



Approaching Park River from the east on Highway 17 with the big house and barn on the north side of the road that belonged to Masloskis and guarded by their dog, "Jack"? The sidewalk went past their place all the way out to the cemetery!



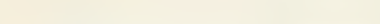
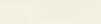
Picking mustard in the grain fields the last week in June to earn money to spend on the 4th of July?



The first airplanes that appeared in this area created quite a sensation. One could hear a plane before it arrived and would watch until it faded out of sight but could be heard. Claude Skinner of Langdon was one of the first aviators who came here and he offered rides. When he would do some of his stunt flying it was a breath-taking sight?



It was unheard of to take off for Grand Forks much later than day-break and expect to return home by midnight? Even a trip to Grafton was an all-day venture?



The all-quiet was enforced when attending church, quite frequently causing the younger ones to get the giggles?



Quarantine signs? Fumigation?

You could walk up the street and hear conversations by groups of women speaking their native tongue?



How Grandma bought her supply of peppermints at Finneseth's Store?



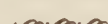
How fascinating the ladders were in the stores that were used to reach merchandise on the upper shelves. Then the tongs they used!



Purchasing material by the yard was a show in itself...a yard was the distance between the clerk's nose and the end of her outstretched arm? I always wondered why the clerk was smelling the material.



Wasn't it fascinating to watch the clerk snap the paper bags open by the downward pull of the arm so the air filled the bag?



How houses had many occupants, maybe a couple of families living in them instead of today's one-family dwelling?



No living room wall was complete without a framed print of "The Lone Wolf" and Zula Kenyon's painting of the little girl sitting on a stone fence amid apple blossoms watching the bluebird?



Christmas was celebrated only at Christmas time?



Women would not consider going to church without a hat and gloves?



The only time of the year turkey was served was for Thanksgiving and Christmas?



When a big family could be fed on one hen or rooster? 25cents worth of hamburger?



Train was the way to travel?



All the sleds had metal runners?



The thrill and excitement for the whole family when the mail order catalog order arrived!



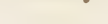
Houses had rooms called the library, pantry, front room (for company)?



Women applied rouge to their cheeks in a round circle - the size and shape of the puff?



The competition in the neighborhood was who would get their wash out on the line first on Monday morning?



How Labor Day was the end of wearing summer clothes. Easter was the time for wearing all the finery...truly a fashion show of the new spring garments, especially hats. Remember the whispering: "She had the same hat last year?"



When the 3 TK Orchestra played for the dance every Saturday night in the City Hall? They ended every dance number with the melody for "Shave and a Hair Cut, Six Bits?"

More remember when:

When the Coliseum was opened it cost the dancers 5 cents per dance. The area for dancing was roped off and guarded carefully by the members of the American Legion. Many 'big name' bands played one night stands here?

One could stop in at the Midget Lunch and get a big piece of cake and a scoop of ice cream for 10 cents?

Bottles of pop were 5 cents?

Mrs. Adams had her "Nickle Inn?" Everything was a nickel, even a good size hamburger! Her Inn was located in her front yard, close to the Creamery.

If a teacher got married during the school year she was automatically released from her contract. This meant many kept their wedding a secret. If a teacher even had the thought of entering a public bar it would mean being ostracized from society?

Teachers were paid with "A Warrant"?

How adept the girls working in the Luxury Ice Cream Store were at filling your cone with hollow scoops of ice cream?

The dust the householders had to contend with before the streets were surfaced?

Coffee was 5 cents a cup - free refills?

Women were so pleased when the gift they received was a handmade handkerchief as the result of Minnie Masloski's beautiful handwork?

How everyone attending the A.C. never registered any objection to attend school on Saturday from October through March, the period of time for students enrolled in the 'short course' to get their education?

The frost-bite suffered for those who walked the distance from the flag pole to the front door of the school? It was proclaimed the coldest spot in North Dakota?

When there were only about three cars parked at the school during the school day? Everyone walked!

When the time came for the Mid-Winter Fair (the last week of February and the first week of March) one could almost bet his last dollar the weather would be uncooperative?

The operettas put on by the music department of the A.C. were great performances and were always played to a capacity crowd, even if the weather was bad?

When students and children spoke to their elders they addressed them as Mr., Mrs., or Miss?

Remember what it was like before air-conditioning? People took the heat in stride and survived!

It's only 30 years ago that we were pleased to get any kind of reception on a television set.

The transition of cooking - from the kitchen range fueled by wood or coal to the micro-wave!

Really, don't you miss the convenience of picking up the telephone and with one ring to alert 'central' you could learn 'where the fire is', 'who is real sick', who 'died', and many other bits of information...too, the party line 'rubbering' was the entertainment for many people.

Ah, this changing world!

Trivia

.. December, 1923 - Notice to Radio Owners in City of Park River.
.. Tuning in different stations with the average radio set causes a whistle in your neighbor's ears in his set and much disturbance. I am sure it will be better for all concerned to listen to one program and not see how many stations you can get. Don't fight with each other in case someone else whistles your instrument. Thanks, Ives Radio Shop.

.. March, 1925 - At the Baby Clinic held at Grafton recently 11 of the 60 babies examined were found to be normal. At Park River only 3 of the 33 examined were found to be normal. The defects, in most cases, were of a minor nature.

.. May, 1925 - Fritz Thorson wrote home on Friday from Choteau, Montana where he and Neil Marifjeren had arrived that day on their way to the coast. When they reached Choteau they learned they were unable to travel by auto along the northern route and would be compelled to ship the car across by rail. This didn't

appeal to them so they drove south through Helena and Missoula and then across to the coast. They arrived in Spokane just 6 days after leaving here.

1901: Judge Keeshaws gave a \$10 prize for the prettiest baby. The prize was awarded to year-old daughter of Mrs. L. Dosse. The Judge is out \$10 and good will of 110 other babies' mamas.

1901: Park River visited last evening by the most disastrous fire in its history. \$100,000 damage in three hours. After it was seen that the town could not be saved and that at least the business portion was doomed, efforts were turned toward saving the stock in the buildings and in a number of cases the loss will be very light.

1928: Residents of Hatton welcome home Carl Ben Eielson following his air flight with Sir Hubert Wilkin over the top of the world to Norway.



for Economical Transportation

Higher Quality at Lower Prices because of increasing Volume Production!

January, 1925 —There was introduced a new Chevrolet which scored a tremendous success. Among its many new features were: a new and rugged rear axle, an improved unit power plant, a new single-plate disc-clutch, a much stronger frame, semi-elliptic chrome vanadium steel springs, cowl and dash-lamps, and new Fisher bodies finished in Duco . . . the price of the Coach was . . . **\$735** f.o.b. Flint, Mich.

August, 1925 —Chevrolet announced a new measure of value based on many new quality features—such as motor-driven Klaxon horn, improved sheet metal construction in the bodies, corrugated steering wheel with walnut finish, new headlamp rim construction and a more convenient gear-shift lever. Yet, despite all the additions . . . the Coach was reduced to . . . **\$695** f.o.b. Flint, Mich.

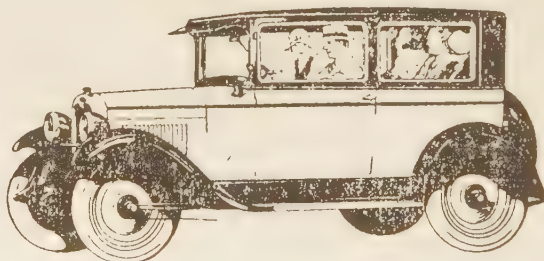
January, 1926 —Another spectacular increase in Chevrolet value—a model offering many mechanical improvements, such as a smoother, quieter motor with three-point suspension, a silent V-belt generator drive, new oil pump, more efficient cooling, an air cleaner, larger brakes, etc. Notwithstanding these improvements . . . the Coach was reduced to . . . **\$645** f.o.b. Flint, Mich.

and now—

Our Touring or Roadster **\$525**
Our Coupe . . . **\$625**
Our 4-Door Sedan . . . **\$695**
Our Sport Cabriolet . . . **\$715**
Our Landau . . . **\$745**
½ Ton Truck **\$395**
1 Ton Truck **\$495**

All Prices F.o.b. Flint, Michigan. Balloon tires standard and equipment on all models.

In addition to these low prices Chevrolet's delivered prices include the lowest handling and financing charges available.



The Most

Beautiful Coach In Chevrolet History!

Climaxing all of Chevrolet's previous value triumphs, the Chevrolet Coach of today is acclaimed as the outstanding closed car value of all time. Beautiful new Fisher bodies—paneled and beaded, rakishly low and finished in new colors of genuine Duco . . . full-crown, one-piece fenders . . . bullet-type headlamps . . . AC oil filter and AC air cleaner . . . finer performance, greater riding comfort and remarkable steering ease! A car so marvelously beautiful that you must see it to appreciate it—Yet the price has been reduced to . . . **\$595** f.o.b. Flint, Mich.

Park River Auto Company

QUALITY AT LOW COST

More Pictures



Railroad and general traffic bridges approaching the city from the North (1895).



1983



**"PARK RIVER, DAKOTA TERRITORY, 1884"
FRED HULTSTRAND, "HISTORY IN PICTURES"
North Dakota Institute for Regional Studies,
NDSU, Fargo, N.D. 58105.**



BRIGGS AVENUE



White Way - 1927



1933



Railroad Avenue, houses replaced now by Fire Hall.



"TWO EARLY BUSINESSES"
FRED HULTSTRAND "HISTORY IN PICTURES"
 North Dakota Institute for Regional Studies,
 NDSU, Fargo, N.D. 58105.



Park River, N. Dak. 1917



"BRIGGS AVENUE SOUTH"
FRED HULTSTRAND "HISTORY IN PICTURES"
 North Dakota Institute for Regional Studies,
 NDSU, Fargo, N.D. 58105.



"BRIGGS AVENUE NORTH"
FRED HULTSTRAND "HISTORY IN PICTURES"
 North Dakota Institute for Regional Studies,
 NDSU, Fargo, N.D. 58105.



Park River Mill, destroyed by fire.



Bank of Park River (Now Dr. Earl Infeld's office).



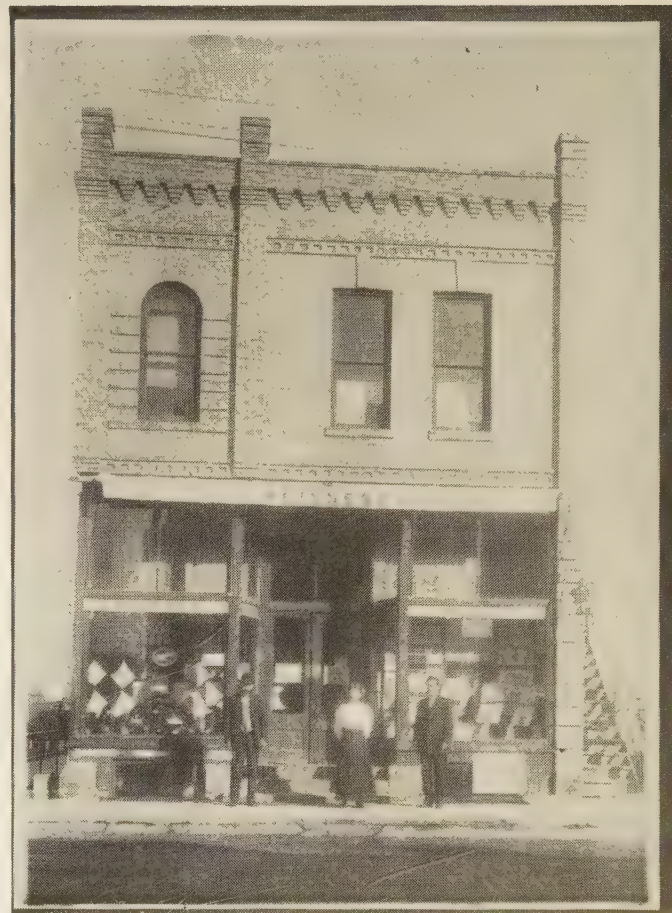
Interior of Bank of Park River.



Clerks at Finneseth Store. The lady in the center is Nettie Quill Kinsala.



Teams waiting for coal Feb. 18, 1907



Christian L. Finneseth, Ida Finneseth, and Lawrence Finneseth



Main street, Park River about 1909



West Side Briggs Ave. S. - 1909



William C. Kerian, Rural Mail carrier, RR No. 1 - about 1913



East Side Main Street about 1915



City Park, Park River



Briggs Avenue - 1936



Building the Walsh County Gymnasium



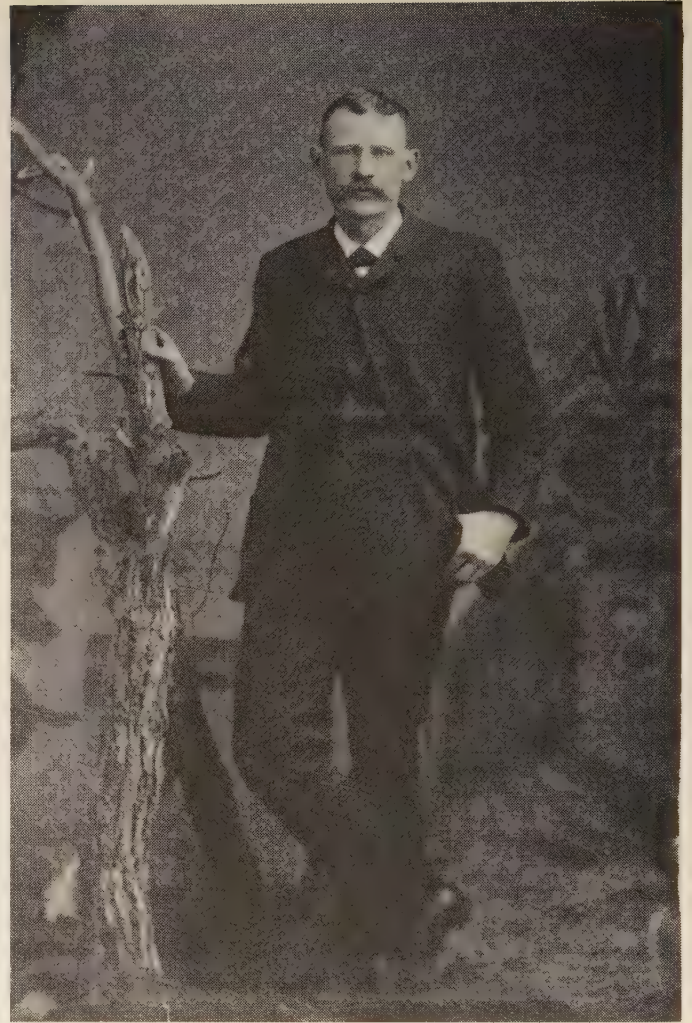
Porter Well Company with the rig set up to drill a well on the Jay Penas (Sinclair Lewis) Farm, located one mile south of Park River.



Clark Eaton's Band



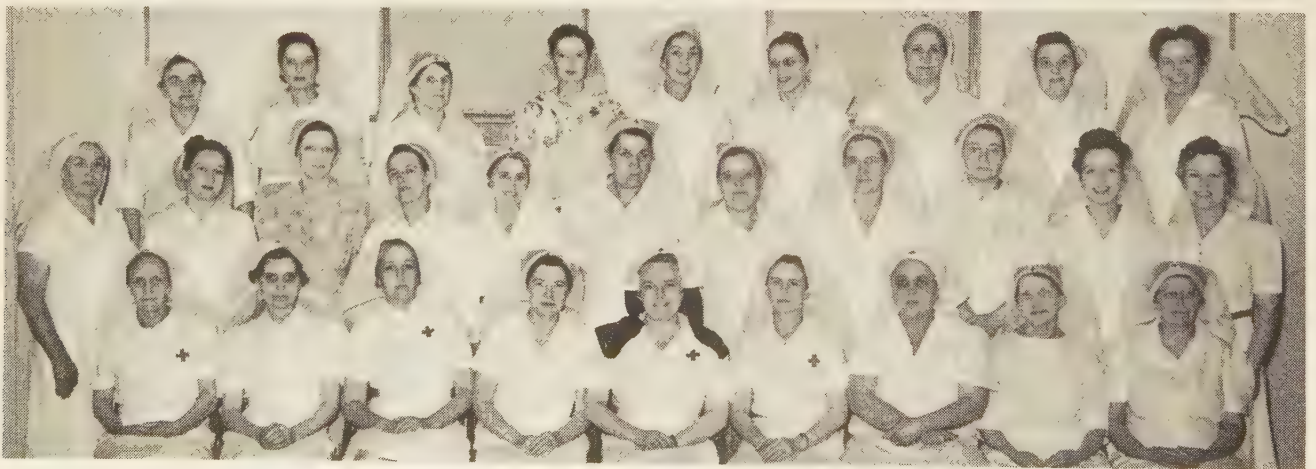
Residential Street, Park River



Frank Wade



1959 Gold Star Mothers. Left to Right: Mrs. James Gillespie, Mrs. Alex Parke, Mrs. Fred Hultstrand, Mrs. Sivert Sunderland, Mrs. Joe Kowalski, Mrs. Joe Loughhead. Standing is Mrs. Agnes Dougherty Henderson. Dept. American Legion Auxiliary President.



LADIES OF PARK RIVER DURING WORLD WAR II

These ladies made bandages for the armed forces.

Back row: Eleanor Bygland, Kay Sundell, Nettie Kinsala, Mary Argetsinger, Goodie Halberg, unidentified, Lucille Delvo, Elaine Bygland, Sylvia Wick.

Middle row: Mary Oaks, Ida Neste, Desa Sponitz, Margaret Smith, Beulah Hardy, Bergit Thompson, Lila White, Violet

Parke, Lu Sharpe, Billee Wick, Thelma Wick.

Front row: Karen Johnson, Ruth Mauritson, Lottie Rengle, Anna Meagher, Mable Dougherty, Annie O'Brien, Agnes Engh, Helen Edwards, Hannah Porter.



Vera (Fisher) and Alice Warner



Minnie Soll (Masloski) about 1900



Jacob Birder Store - 1889



Mary Davis (Mrs. William)



William Davis Family. Back row: Alice, Charlie, and Frances Ann. Front row: Inkerman, William, Mary and Henry.



Gertina Pederson Warner working on her wagon wheel rug.



Hailstorm - June 5, 1957



Standing: Joseph Coulter, Oscar Spoonland. Sitting: William George Coulter, William Lewis.



Inkerman Davis

1897 Council Member - 2nd ward



Sunday School Picnic in Big Park

1st row: Thelma, Victoria Christopher, Christine Jergenson, Ella Acherland.

2nd row: Martha Olson, Violet Erickson, Borghill Evenson, Amie Acherland.

3rd row: Mrs. O.W. Olson, Mrs. Owen Christopher, Mrs. Olava Larson, Anna Larson, Mrs. Knute Jergenson, Mrs. Nimone.

Men and boys. 1st row: James Jergenson, Elmer Jergenson, Alvin Larson.

2nd row: Melvin Olson, Henry Olson, Henry Larson, Melvin Jergenson.

Sitting: Ted Larson, Owen Christopher, Martin Christopher, O.W. Olson, Rev. Nimone, Knute Jergenson, and Clarence in arms, Carl Larson, Sam Olson, Hans Christopher.



Harold Schlenk Sr. - 7 months old

Floods of 1948 and 1950



April 1948, Prospect Ave



April 1948, Prospect Ave



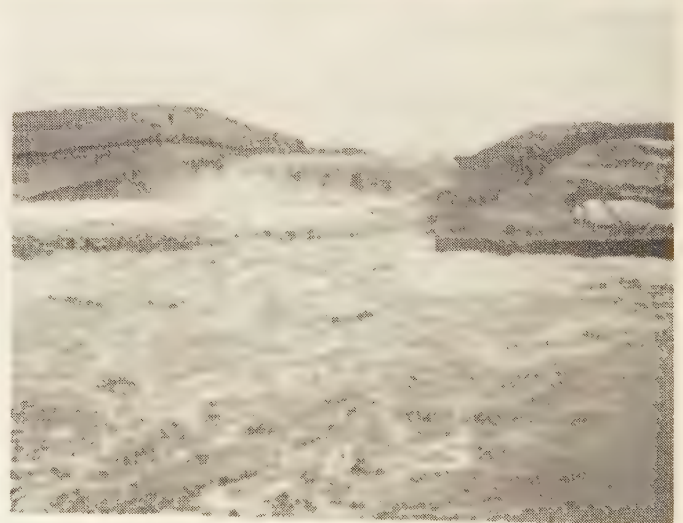
April 1948, Prospect Ave.



1950 Flood - Bridge



Main Street - April 1950



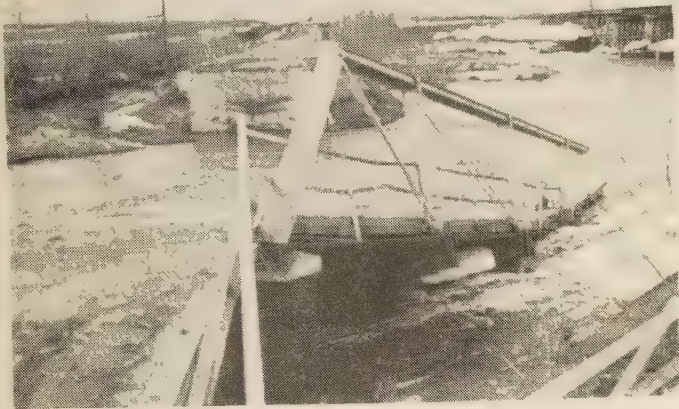
Homme Dam - 1950



1950 Flood



1950 Flood



1950 Flood - bridge by power house



1950 Flood

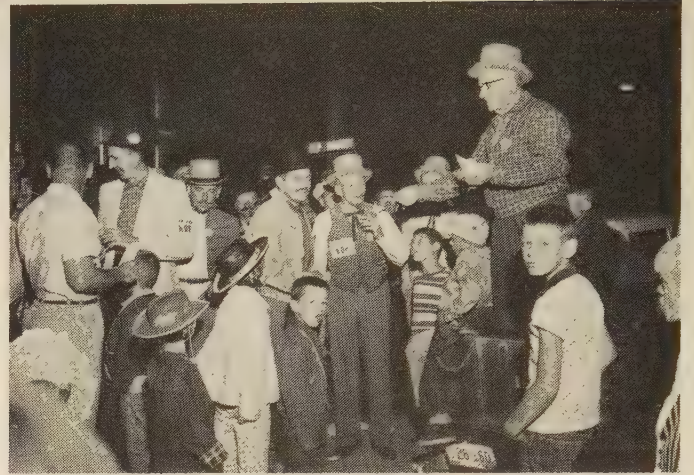
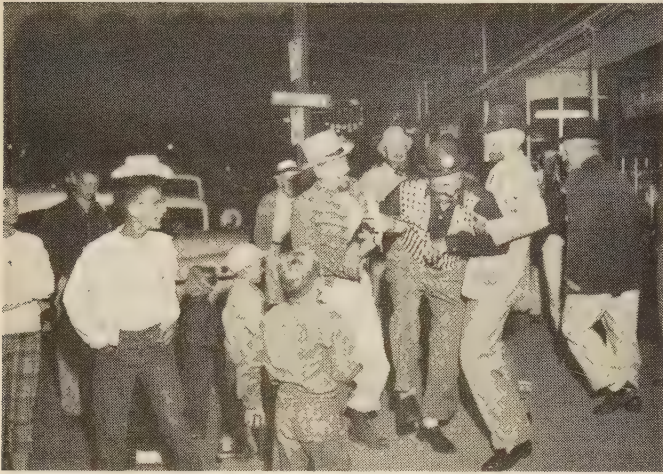


1950 Flood

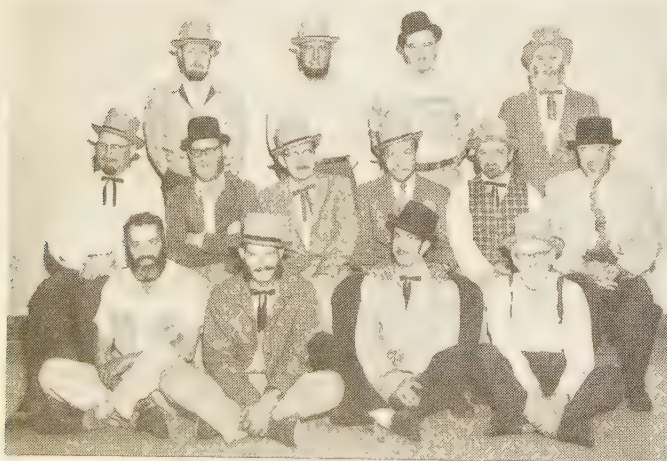


1950 Flood

75th Anniversary-1959



Young Harold Schlenk Sr.



Front: Harold Harris, Gaylord Matliff,
Lorenz Mahrer, Juel Severson

Middle: Lloyd Staven, Duane Halvorson,
Ted E. Ilsen, Floyd Fahl, Bob Bork,
M. O. Johnson

Standing: Gordon Larson, Percy Walstad,
Harold Garnaas, J.C.H. Moan



North Dakota's second largest tree.

This big cottonwood was located west of Park River on the William Davis Homestead, now the D.U. Meberg Farm. It was reputed to be 111 feet, 6 inches in height with a crown spread 65 feet, 6 inches. Its circumference at the ground was 28 feet, 9 inches. Four and a half feet above ground the trunk measured 19 feet 6 inches. A well remembered aspect of the tree for several years was that 11 adults could stand together in a hollow in the trunk. The tree was damaged in a storm June 7, 1954.



Drum and Bugle Corp.



1930; Farmers "Good Will Banquet"



unidentified Park River band members



Joseph Dub Sr. and Katheryn Kozlick. Married Oct. 6th, 1908

May 31, 1934

Tag a dollar with this inscription. "Don't spend me outside of Park River." At the end of 30 days, the story will read something like this:

Changed hands 100 times, traveled all over the community, was in and out of banks, invaded practically every field of industry and labor, paid taxes and many bills, relieved unemployment, stimulated business and still going strong.

The exact figures make little or no difference but the above is what happens—this dollar and others like it work night and day to build Park River.

Not every dollar can be kept in the community but those spent for Park River products tarry longer to increase consumer demands, keep people busy and put men at work.

Whenever possible buy North Dakota made goods and buy them in Park River. You will benefit by so doing.

Scenes From The March, 1966 Snowstorm



Street by Fred Hultstrand studio looking west by Baptist Church. No service at any of the churches this day.



Mrs. Agnes Henderson house. Note street sign and stop sign



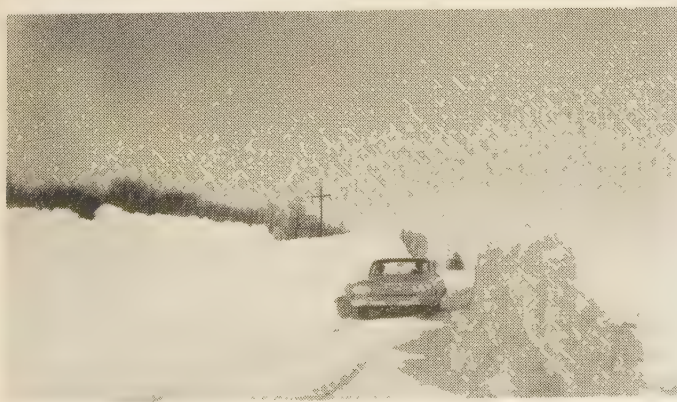
Note red flag on radio antenna on car in front of black smith shop



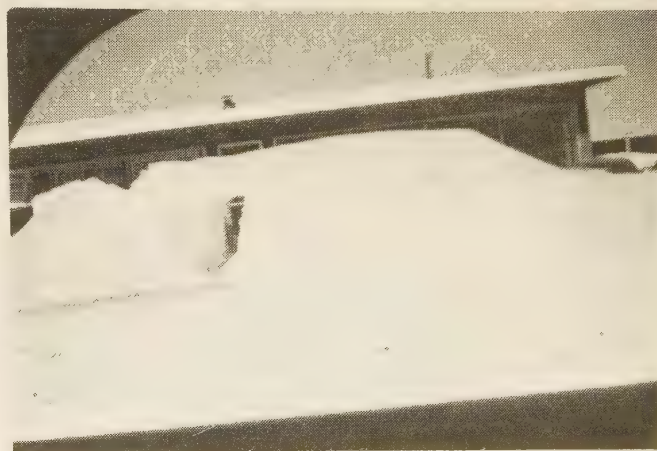
Depot, March 6, 1966



Street in front of Mrs. Lewis' house - note stop sign



One mile east of Park River



Silliman Implement

MOTOR VEHICLE
REGISTRATION DEPARTMENT No 143040
CERTIFICATE OF TITLE TO A MOTOR VEHICLE

PURSUANT TO PROVISIONS OF H.B. 132 SESSION LAWS 1927

I, Fred B. Ingstad, Motor Vehicle Registrar, do hereby certify that

HAROLD SCHLENK

PARK RIVER N D

has made application for a Certificate of Title to a motor vehicle described as follows:

<i>Make</i>	<i>Motor number</i>	<i>Serial number</i>	<i>Model</i>
FORD	2 915 327		T
<i>Year</i>	<i>Passenger capacity</i>	<i>Cylinders</i>	<i>Type</i>
1918	2	4	LIGHT DEL.
<i>Truck equipment</i>			

and the applicant certifies that he is the owner of said motor vehicle, and that it is subject to the following liens and none other:

<i>Encumbrance \$</i>	NONE	<i>Favor of</i>	<i>Date</i>
-----------------------	------	-----------------	-------------

I do further certify that I have used reasonable diligence in ascertaining that the facts stated in said application for a Certificate of Title are true.



Therefore, I certify that the applicant herein named has been duly registered in the office of the Motor Vehicle Registration Department as the lawful owner of the motor vehicle herein described; and that the said motor vehicle is subject to the encumbrances as above set forth.

Witness my hand and seal

this 21 day of JUNE 1928 WBT

Fred B. Ingstad.
Registrar

FINE AND IMPRISONMENT FOR ALTERATION OF THIS CERTIFICATE

Dr. Livingston in Walsh--

Rocky's death rejuvenates an unusual story

By John A. Strand

The death of former United States Vice President Nelson Rockefeller brought memories back to pioneers in the state of North Dakota and specifically Walsh County.

In fact, one of Nelson A. Rockefeller's favorite tales was about his great grandfather who traveled the West and Midwest selling patent medicines from the back of a wagon.

That individual, William Avery Rockefeller, had homesteaded land near Park River on June 23, 1886. He paid Pierson D. and Laura E. Briggs \$10,000 for the purchase, which lies directly east of Park River with part of it now in incorporated city limits of that Walsh County community.

The legend is that William Rockefeller was the father of the original John D. Rockefeller, Standard Oil magnate, and was considered something of a neer-do-well. To get him out from under the feet of the family, the story is that his son set him up as a farmer in North Dakota.

According to the story of old timers as handed down to the present generation, the experiment was entirely unsuccessful and the elder Rockefeller spent very little time on his new possessions.

If the legend is true, it is to the effect that Rockefeller never admitted his connection with the Rockefeller family of Standard Oil fame while here in North Dakota. He even assumed the name of William Livingston, M.D.

Known in the area as an itinerant medicine salesman who made the rounds offering his wares, Livingston had a very robust personality to match his handsome appearance. Little did pioneer settlers realize that Dr. Livingston had connections with a prominent Eastern family and that his real name was Rockefeller.

Upon purchasing land near Park River, the elderly Rockefeller registered that his home was Cuyahoga County, Ohio. Although historical information of this ancestor of the extremely wealthy Standard Oil family, the stories related by Walsh County residents have been told and retold numerous times.

William Avery Rockefeller was said to have been insatiably romantic and colorful. He was as unpredictable as day and night, and his family seldom knew when he would show up or when he would be leaving again.

According to a story in the Walsh County Press some time back, the only thing they could be certain about was that William would stage his exit and his entrance in such a way as to achieve the maximum of dramatic surprise.

When he returned home after an unexplained absence he was usually driving a new team of horses and flashing a wallet full of banknotes to advertise his prosperity and express his infectious gaiety. To people around him he was a novelty, but to his serious minded wife and his sons he was a constant source of worry and vexation.

The story about Dr. Livingston is one of an adventurer, quack doctor, dog fancier, and recluse. It is an incredulous tale, especially when contrasted to a description of him by his father-in-law, who warned his daughter, Eliza Davison, not to marry Rockefeller because of his unconventional habits and erratic means of livelihood.

The young man was described as the type of country sport who

preferred to hunt, gamble and race with horses to the fetters of a steady job. But he never drank.

His imagination was unlimited, especially when it came to selling his cure to prescription which cured all ailments attainable by man or beast. He specialized in curing cancer, consumption, and the likes.

July of 1882 found Dr. Livingston advertising in the Grafton News. He then related his expertise in the medical practice and stated three conditions for any consultation: he would not charge for the examination; he would not do anything for hopeless cases and would tell the patient immediately; and he would always state his opinion and offer treatment if it would help.

Once, it has been told, Dr. Livingston pretended to be deaf and dumb in order to sell his medicines to the Indians because they believed people so handicapped were endowed with magical powers.

Another time he mystified members of his family by locking himself in his room for what seemed like an extremely long time. When he finally came out he amazed everyone in the house by displaying a tablecloth he had made using banknotes of all denominations fastened together in a quilted design.

The story in the Press further indicated that Rockefeller was described as handsome, profane and with an eye for pretty women. He was popular with old and young.

His son, John D. Rockefeller, Sr., saw him as a flashing personality, the best talker, politely mannered, a shrewd bargainer, clever story teller, a wise advisor, and a welcome visitor. Old William was also the most mysterious, unpredictable, and freest individual either John D. or his brother William had ever known.

Eventually John D. grew up to be a puritanical person, unlike his father who left too little hope for heaven in the eyes of many. William Avery Rockefeller lived his gypsy-like life to the end and seemingly enjoyed every minute of it.

Meanwhile, out in eastern United States, the Rockefeller name gained more prestige. The family wealth grew logarithmically and its members became very politically active, which brings us to the favorite tale of now deceased great grandson Nelson A. Rockefeller.

While on the presidential campaign trail, Gov. Nelson Rockefeller invariably drew appreciative laughter from his audience.

One of Rockefeller's favorite stories goes back to his great grandfather, William Rockefeller, who traveled the West and Midwest selling patent medicines from the back of a wagon.

He told it this way in Fargo:

While serving as an assistant secretary of state in the 1940's, Rockefeller was called to testify before a Senate committee headed by North Dakota Republican William Langer.

"Mr. Secretary," the senator said, "I don't know if I'm going to believe you. Your great grandfather sold a bottle of medicine to my father and it didn't do him any good."

"How old was your father when he died?" Rockefeller asked.

"He was 92," Langer responded.

"Well," said Rockefeller, "at least the medicine didn't do him any harm."

Received receipt
Witnessed stated

No 3283 Receivers Office at Grand Forks D.T. Oct 8" 1883

Received from William Livingston of Walsh County Dakota the sum
of One Hundred dollars and - cents being in full for the North
Quarter of Section No 27 in Township No 157 N of Range No
55 W containing 160 acres and - hundredths at \$1²⁵ per acre \$200 - N. J.

Anderson Receiver. \$200. For and in consideration of the sum of Two thousand
dollars to me in hand paid, hereby grant assign and set over to Laura C. Briggs of
Nebraska Ohio her heirs and assigns forever all my right title and interest in
and to the within Certificate and in and to all my right title and interest in
and to the lands therein described, Witness my hand and seal this 25th day
of September A.D. 1884. William Livingston (seal) State of Illinois Notary Public
On this 25th day of September A.D. 1884 before me a Notary Public in and for the
County and State aforesaid appeared William Livingston to me personally well
known to be the same person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing
assignment and acknowledged that he signed sealed and delivered the said
instrument as his free and voluntary act for the uses and purposes therein
set forth and I further certify that said assignment is executed and acknow-
ledged according to the laws of the State of Illinois. Witness my hand and official
seal at said County this 25th day and year first aforesaid W. A. Buckman
Notary Public ^{Notarial Seal} Filed for record May 23' A.D. 1885

Advertisements

ANGIE'S CAFE, PARK RIVER
ANGELINE KACHENA, PROPRIETER
Open Mon. thru Fri. 6:30 A.M. to 7 P.M.; Sat. 7 to 3:30 P.M.

ALEXANDER HOUSE
CHARLES SCHMALTZ, Owner-Manager

ASSOCIATED POTATO GROWERS, INC.
GRAND FORKS, GRAFTON, DRAYTON

BOWL-MOR LANES, PR

BROWSIN' HOUSE, CRYSTAL 657-2160

BURBIDGE SEED CO., INC. PARK RIVER
CERTIFIED SEED POTATOES AND SEED GRAINS
Arden Burbidge --- Gary Askim

CENEX PARK RIVER

CITIZENS STATE BANK
A HOME OWNED BANK
Edinburg - Lankin - Edmore

THE CLUB BAR PARK RIVER

PHYLLIS W. COWGER, DC

DAHL, GREENAGEL, CURRIE, GEIGER & PETERSON
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
Park River - Grafton

RON DAHL CONSTRUCTION INC.
GENERAL BUILDING CONTRACTOR

DOCTORS CLINIC: DR. AFONYA, DR. SUMRA

DUNDEE MUTUAL INSURANCE CO.
Eugene Loftsgard, Sec.
"Dependable Service Since 1889"

DUSEK SAND AND GRAVEL, Donald Dusek, Owner

GLENN GILLESHAMMER & SONS CERTIFIED SEED POTATOES - St. Thomas

ED'S FLOWERS, PARK RIVER

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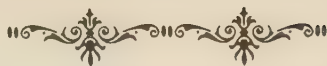
WALSH COUNTY PRESS
From One Old Timer to Another --
Happy 100th Birthday Park River
Henry & Georgette Kelly & Staff

HAPPY BIRTHDAY PARK RIVER!!
from Leona & Percy Walstad

WELCH'S BAKERY, Park River

WYLIE MONUMENT COMPANY
EDINBURG, N.D.

YE OLDE MEDICINE SHOPPE, Park River



August 23, 1917

City School Notes

The following is a table showing some interesting facts about the students that have completed their work in the city high school during the years, 1914-1915 and 1915-1916:

Number graduates.....	62
Number attending higher institutions of learning	26
Number attending schools of same ranking as high school.....	10
Per cent of students attending institutions of higher learning...	41.9
Number students qualifying for teaching.....	31
Per cent of students qualifying for teaching.....	50
Number of students attending higher institutions of learning that have not been reported as failures in any work.....	23
Number students attending higher institutions reported as failing in one or more subjects.....	3
Number students failing in one subject.....	2
Number students failing in four subjects	1
Per cent of students that have passed in all subjects.....	88.4
Per cent of students that have passed in all subjects except one	96.1

It is readily seen from the foregoing table that the students, graduating from Park River high school are making exceptionally good as students in higher institutions of learning.

March 1, 1928

ANNOUNCES HIS CANDIDACY

Alfred Monsebroten, a young farmer of Nash who has filled for the office of County Auditor, was a visitor here yesterday. He was born and raised on a farm near Nash where he has resided almost continually. He has graduated from two business colleges at Fargo.

SENDS HIS CONTRIBUTION

A. J. Catherwood, a Park Riverite now basqueing in the warmer clime of California, does not forget his home town or its events. A five dollar check was received here from him last week as a contribution to our Mid-Winter fair.



PARK RIVER'S FIRST BAND—Ten members comprised the Silver Cornet Band of Park River which was organized in 1886. They were (left to right, top row), Fred Kelly, Philip Goetchius, Henry Seht and Theodore Aslakson; (second row), David H. Beecher, Michael Quigley and Mr. Stranahan; (lower row) Charles McCarthy, Daniel F. Humphreys and John McCarthy.

Band of 10 Produced First Park River 'Toots, Umpahs'

PARK RIVER, N. D. — Merchants, tradesmen, banker and teacher—ten of them—furnished the first "toots" and "umpahs" for Park River way back in 1886.

They were members of the Silver Cornet Band which was the first organization of its kind in the Park River district. Gaudy uniforms, a stack of brass instruments and a couple of drums were purchased and the band started operations without a director. A short time later, however, E. V. Hauser was engaged to direct the organization.

The band was one of the big attractions at Fourth of July celebrations, baseball tournaments and other entertainments and proved one of the city's greatest advertising assets.

Most prominent of the bandsmen was the late David H. Beecher, plectral player, who in 1886 was

a Park River banker. He moved to Grand Forks and became one of that city's most successful businessmen.

Fred Kelly, a boy when he joined the band, was the father of Milton Kelly of Devils Lake. Philip Goetchius was a carpenter and later a furniture dealer at Milton. Henry Seht was a plasterer and then started farming near Milton. Theodore Aslakson, brother of R. H. Aslakson of Edmore, was a Park River hardware dealer. Michael Quigley was Park River's first school teacher. Mr. Stranahan was a druggist. Charles McCarthy was a painter here and later published the Milton Globe. Daniel F. Humphreys, a carpenter, later managed a hardware and lumber business at Bocket and John McCarthy, painter when the band was organized, became a prominent photographer at Milton.

Index

NAME	PAGE NO.	NAME	PAGE NO.	NAME	PAGE NO.
A					
Agassiz Garden Club.....	229	Cicha, Jerome, Family.....	262	Ella's Beauty Shop.....	124
Alexander House.....	121	Cicha, Joseph, Family.....	261	Evenson, Louis, History.....	282
Anderson, Sena.....	251	Clarens, Richard D. & Leone.....	263	Everson, Hans A.....	283
Angeberg, Harriet Francis (Masloski).....	324	Clemetson, Alden.....	264	F	
Arcade, The.....	121	Clemetson, Avis.....	272	Falter, Frank.....	283
Argetsinger, Elmer & Mary.....	251	Clemetson, Clair, Family.....	265	Falter, Harold.....	284
B		Clemetson, Clair & Lorelei.....	267	Falter, Mamie-Henry Staven.....	283
Barrie, Diane Louise.....	251	Clemetson, Henry & Gustie.....	263	Farmers Elevator Company.....	124
Bena, John.....	251	Clemetson, Joanne.....	266	Farmers Union Oil Company.....	125
Bennington Family.....	252	Clemetson, Neom.....	264	Federated Church.....	222
Berg, Curtis & Corrine.....	252	Clemetson Orchestra.....	250	Federated Church Women's Organization.....	235
Bethel Baptist Church.....	219	Clemetson, Rodger.....	267	Finneseth Family.....	284
Birder, Jacob.....	252	Clemetson, Suzanne.....	266	Finneseth, Anna Monson, Pioneer Mother.....	285
Bohn, Adeline (Walstad).....	366	Clemetson, Tom.....	267	Finneseth, Gladys Mae.....	285
Bo-Mar Enterprises.....	121	Club Bar.....	122	Finneseth, Ivah Myrtle.....	285
Book & Discussion Club.....	232	Cooper, Rev. Henry Peyton.....	268	Finneseth, Joe Lawrence.....	285
Borg, Beverly Joan.....	255	Cost, Henrietta.....	268	Finneseth, Oscar Elmer.....	286
Borg, Dagne Esther.....	254	Cost, Louie.....	268	First Bank of Park River.....	126
Borg, David Glenn.....	254	Coulter, Joseph B.....	269	First Presbyterian Church.....	221
Borg, Glenn, Family.....	253	Cudmore Family.....	269	Fjeld, Kenneth, Family.....	286
Borg, Marcus Joel.....	255	Cudmore, Alvin.....	270	Fjeld, Melvin & Hedvig.....	286
Borgeson, Bernt & Anna (Peterson).....	255	Cudmore, Clayton A.....	270	Ford Family.....	286
Borgeson, Elmer & Netta.....	256	Cudmore, Erwin, Family.....	271	Ford, Alex & Ione.....	287
Borgeson, Emil V.....	256	Cudmore, Hester.....	270	Forgard, Ole Jensen.....	334
Borgeson, Ernest & Beulah (Machart).....	257	Cudmore, Joseph.....	269	Fortnightly Study Club.....	235
Borgeson, Maurice, Family.....	257	Currie Family.....	271	G	
Borgeson, Terril, Family.....	258	D		Gate City Savings & Loan.....	129
Borkenhaus, Mildred McCauley.....	326	Dahl, Carl H.....	272	Gates, Cassimier & Mary Bruce.....	287
Boshart, Joyce Cician (Masloski).....	324	Dahl, Edward E.....	272	G.F.W.C. Decca Club.....	232
Bowl-Mor Lanes.....	121	Dahl, Greenagel, Currie, Geiger & Peterson Law Office.....	122	Gillespie, Albert & Dorothy, Family.....	288
Bruce, Alexander Mitchell.....	258	Dahlen, Avis (Clemetson), Family.....	272	Gillespie, David A. & Cheryl.....	288
Budish, Felix & Clara.....	259	Dairy Queen.....	123	Gillespie, John (Jack) & Linda.....	288
Burger, Everett & Angeline.....	259	Daley, David A.....	273	Gillespie, Kenneth & Marcia.....	289
C		Dencker, Henrik F.J.....	273	Gillespie, Robert F.....	289
Cameron, Stephen Alexander.....	260	Dougherty Family.....	274	Good Samaritan Center.....	237
Carlen, Ed, Family.....	261	Dougherty, W.L.....	275	Green, Henry & Ruby.....	229
Catherwood, Elsie Jean.....	261	Dub, Joseph Sr., Family.....	278	Guilmette, Jean Alice (Lewis).....	317
Christenson, Neom Clemetson.....	264	Dub, Joe Jr., Family.....	279	Gussies Lunch.....	129
Christian Faith Fellowship, History of.....	220	Dundee Mutual Insurance Company.....	123	H	
E		Dunn, John A.....	281	Habilitation Systems Associates.....	129
Eaton, Clark.....	281	E			
Ed's Flowers.....	124	Eaton, Clark.....	281		
Eklund, Robert, Family History.....	282	Ed's Flowers.....	124		



